

**M A R**

**1958**

Management Licences Limited to 21 Years

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1974

Talking Politics

# New Forestry Laws Include

## Anti-Blackmailing Clause

### Sloan Recommendations Given First Reading

Legislation implementing forestry recommendations by former chief justice Gordon Sloan limiting the life of forest management licences to 21 years and altering the method of obtaining licences, was given first reading in the legislature yesterday.

The legislation also changes the name of forest management licences to "tree farm licences," establishes forest advisory committees or councils, contains special provisions for the eradication of insects, and makes it mandatory that permits be obtained for the export of wood chips.

The 23 licences already in existence will remain forever in the hands of operators but all new licences, including the 21 that have been applied for but not awarded will be awarded for a 21-year term at which time they may be renewed.

All licences will be reviewed annually.

A change in the method of obtaining licences will mean that all objections to an operator receiving a licence will be heard before the award of the licence, not afterwards as under the present statutes.

#### NO TAX CHANGES

There are no tax changes in the bill.

An attempt to prevent blackmailing at timber sales is also contained in the legislation. It is intended to prevent suppression of competition either by individuals or combines and if found guilty as individual company or combine could be fined \$500 as well as banned for two years from competing for Crown timber purchases.

The control of forest pests and diseases has been brought closer under government control and under the new act a landowner can be ordered to start control measures if it is found any part of his timber is infected.

#### CHARGE FOR WORK

If the owner refuses, the forest service can step in with control measures and charge the landowner for the costs.

The unethical salvage of logs also comes under the new act. If a boom of logs is lost the forest service may order a temporary closure of the area for up to 10 days to permit the owner to salvage his own logs. As the act stands at present, beachcombers can move into the area immediately and begin salvage operations, forcing the owner to buy back his own logs if he wants them back.

### B.C. Power Commission

## \$40,000,000 Added To Borrowing Power

Borrowing power of the B.C. Power Commission was boosted by \$40,000,000, but passage of a similar bill for a second government board was delayed as the legislature ran out of time yesterday afternoon.

Fifteen bills were considered, all but two of them of a minor nature. Fourteen got second reading, approval in principle.

Presenting the bill to increase the power commission's borrowing powers to \$250,000,000, Premier Bennett said commit-

ments were almost \$198,000,000 at the end of last year. The commission had commitments of \$32,000,000 this year, of which \$20,000,000 would be spent on development of power on northern Vancouver Island.

As time ran out, the House was debating a bill to increase borrowing powers of the Toll Bridges and Highways Authority to \$80,000,000 from \$60,000,000. CCF leader Robert Strachan said his party would oppose the bill "because we're in favor of free bridges."

### B.C. Spending Criticized By Strachan

Criticism of the way the provincial government spent public funds without authority was levelled in the legislature by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

He said the government had no right to overspend on various departments without some authority and said the authorization should come from the cabinet.

But Premier Bennett protested this would mean giving a "blank cheque" to cabinet ministers.

"It wouldn't be any more than the blank cheque you are giving them now," replied Mr. Strachan. "All we want is some public record of what is being done."

#### TELEVISION

IZER: How nett "get aw the end of a legislature?" sion.

His favo "Championst when he wa about this even quoted recent scores up on the

The prem other sports plenty of w

a good com came to his fuses to wa however, be heavy."

A ROSE NAME: Th agement li pear entire scene.

Despite t to "tree f forest man always be Crown Zell Falls. The

contract t be affect change i not even forest ma

STUDE ond read election of professor gave To Mackenzi people h

"It's no can have about the him," sa

second-ye toria Co what an lege is c and the doration



# TV Bowling Down Premier's Alley

**TELEVISION TRANQUILIZER:** How does Premier Bennett "get away from it all" at the end of a busy day in the legislature? He watches television.

His favorite program is "Championship Bowling" and when he was telling reporters about this the other day he even quoted some of the more recent scores contestants racked up on the program.

The premier watches most other sports on television, likes plenty of westerns, and enjoys

a good comedian—Red Skelton came to his mind first. He refuses to watch dramatic shows, however, because "they're too heavy."

\* \* \*

**A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME:** The term forest management licence won't disappear entirely from the B.C. scene.

Despite the change of name to "tree farm licences," one forest management licence will always be called just that—the Crown Zellerbach licence at Elk Falls. There's provision in the

contract that the licence won't be affected by any future change in forest legislation, not even changing the name of forest management licence.

\* \* \*

**STUDENT'S CHANCE:** Second reading of a bill allowing election of two Victoria College professors to the UBC Senate gave Tony Gargrave (CCF, Mackenzie) an opportunity few people have yesterday.

"It's not very often a student can have something to say about the group that governs him," said Mr. Gargrave, a

second-year arts student at Victoria College. "I want to say what an excellent job the college is doing. I give this bill, and the college, my hearty endorsement."

**INTERJECTION STOPPER:** The CCF ranks began heckling Premier Bennett yesterday as debate took place on a bill to boost the borrowing powers of the B.C. Power Commission.

The premier stopped the CCFers cold with this remark: "I remember when I first came into this House there were some good debaters, in

fact some great debaters in the CCF ranks—Grant MacNeil, Harold Winch, Dorothy Steeves, Grace McInnes. Where are they (good debaters) now?"

\* \* \*

**STICKY AFFAIR:** The lawyers in the legislature had a fine time yesterday when debate on a bill allowing law stamps machines in courts took place.

Which led Opposition Leader Robert Strachan commenting that he was seriously considering voting against the measure because: "I think lawyers should have glue on their tongues."

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 1958

### Immediate Consideration

## House Meets Mine Crisis

The legislative committee on labor will give immediate consideration to the emergency facing Britannia Beach over the closure of the Howe Sound copper mine there.

The provincial legislature decided upon this course of action after members on all sides of the House castigated the action of the Howe Sound Company in closing the mine down today.

Some 500 workers and their families are affected by the move.

"It's a further indication how vulnerable we are as long as we are primarily a producer of raw materials for other people to manufacture," said Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan.

"I must say I object very strongly over the discourteous method on the part of the company in doing business," he said. "I have received no formal notification of the closure."

It was announced Thursday that directors of the company had met in Salt Lake City and

decided to close the mine down because of the falling price of copper. The federal and provincial governments had been paying \$20,000-a-month subsidy to keep it in operation until May 1 at least.

The motion that the matter be put before the standing committee on labor forthwith was made by Donald Robinson (SC, Lillooet.)

The CCF opposition group, which supported the motion, blamed the capitalist system for such closings and Opposition Leader Strachan said it was not right that directors in Seattle should close down the coal mines at Fernie and directors in Salt Lake should likewise close down Britannia.

"We will support this motion but it brings home to the people of B.C. and Canada the danger of alienating our resources," he said. "Similar situations will undoubtedly follow unless something is done. We must be allowed to control our own natural resources."

## Funds Millions Short

An \$8,000,000 shortage in provincial sinking funds existed on March 4, 1952, according to a statement filed in the legislature by Premier Bennett.

Action was promised Wednesday by the premier after he charged there was a shortage of \$5,000,000 in the funds when Social Credit took office in August, 1952. Opposition members demanded proof and the premier finally agreed to file a statement.

The statement, from provincial economic adviser J. V. Fisher, said that "as of March 4, 1952, no debt redemption provisions, either by way of sinking funds or serial debt installments, were provided with respect to" three debenture series.

One for \$5,000,000 was due Dec. 15, 1952, or during the 1952-53 fiscal year. The other two, each for \$1,500,000, were due Aug. 15, 1956 and 1957 respectively.



TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958

## Talking Politics

# I Was Douk For RCMP?

By PETER BRUTON

**SECRET AGENT X:** The RCMP seems so adept at getting members of the force into drug rings and Communist organizations that surely they can sneak an undercover officer into the Doukhobor organization, Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) said last night.

"It seems strange to me that they have never worked their way into it," he said. "Surely there should be men who are willing to try."

"That act comes under the premier's vote," replied Mr. Bonner, "but I will be glad to consider it."

★ ★ ★  
**SORRY, WRONG NUMBER:** Archie Gibbs (Lib., Oak Bay) yesterday complained during Attorney-General Bonner's estimates that if he were an invalid and wanted a companion driver to take him south to the U.S. for the climate he would have to get approval from the Public Utilities Commission.

This provision is called for in the Motor Carriers' Act, he said.

★ ★ ★  
**DRIVING HABITS:** Tony Gargrave (CCF, Mackenzie) yesterday called for a resurgence and revival of old-fashioned good manners in driving. "Unfortunately technology is moving too fast for us," he stated. "We know about giving up our seats on the bus but we're not quite sure what to do at stop-lights. We don't seem to have the time to get a code of good manners in driving."

## Liquor for Indians

**NEEDS OF THE NORTH:** A difference of opinion broke out on the floor of the legislature yesterday between four Social Credit backbenchers—all from the northern part of the province.

They were split evenly down the middle over the question of immediate desegregation of B.C.'s liquor laws to allow native Indians the same privileges as whites in drinking and buying firewater.

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) suggested: "We should build small liquor stores in out of the way places, or put a small corner of a general store aside for it." Also in favor of extending Indians the same privileges as whites was William Asselstine (SC, Atlin) who said present laws forced Indians to buy from bootleggers. Added Mr. Asselstine: "It's 12 years today since I had a snort, it's a memorable day."

But Hugh Shirreff (SC, Skeena) and William Speare (SC, Cariboo) differed. There

were hundreds of things that could be done to rehabilitate the native population long before extending liquor right to them, they argued.

★ ★ ★  
**VISITORS BY DAY AND NIGHT:** Stormy debate over Attorney-General Robert Bonner's handling of the Sommers case yesterday was taken in by Noel Murphy, president of the B.C. Social Credit League. Mr. Murphy was over from Vancouver for the day.

At the evening session, a visitor to the galleries was Percy Wright, former Social Credit member for Victoria who resigned to let Einar Gunderson run in 1953. Mr. Gregory beat Mr. Gunderson. Mr. Wright said it was the first full sitting he has been to this session.



# Fiery Exchanges Over Bonner Tear Tempers

## Government Upheld In Confidence Vote

By PETER BRUTON

Attorney-General Robert Bonner's handling of the bribery allegations against former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers sparked a full-scale opposition attack in the legislature yesterday, ending in the defeat of a CCF non-confidence motion by a vote of 29 to 14.

Three Social Credit backbenchers — Cyril Shelford of Omineca, Fred Sharp of Vancouver East and Irvine Corbett of Yale — left the House immediately before the vote-taking and said later they could not agree with Mr. Bonner's actions, adding, however, that he could not properly defend himself at this time.

The House finally passed Mr. Bonner's salary vote at 10:40 p.m., nearly six hours after debate started on the item.

The explosive, temper-torn debate also produced these developments:

1. Premier Bennett said his attorney-general had been acting on the advice of top civil servants in his department throughout the two-year-old case.

2. George Gregory (L. Victoria) charged that Vancouver lawyer David Sturdy had "received a very substantial offer" to withdraw his plea of justification in the slander suit brought against him by Mr. Sommers.

3. Attorney-General Bonner accused the opposition of indulging in "psychological jury-packing" in discussing the case which is now before the courts in Vancouver.

4. The attorney-general refused to say how Mr. Sommers had obtained the information which led to his slander action against Mr. Sturdy. The action was dismissed last year.

5. The CCF called for the resignation of both Mr. Bonner and the provincial government as a whole over the case.

### 'Money Talks' Charge

The debate began when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan read a lengthy review of the whole case since Mr. Sturdy and accountant Charles Eversfield first submitted a statutory declaration before Mr. Bonner in December, 1955.

He also dealt with the famous "money talks" statement made by former Liberal Gordon Gibson from Lillooet, which led to the establishment of the Lord Inquiry earlier that year.

"The point I am making is this," said Mr. Strachan. "On the basis of vague allegations made in this House in February, 1955, the government set up a commission of inquiry into the manner of granting forest management licences. . . . That simple unsubstantiated statement brought a royal commission."

"Any thinking person will wonder why, some months later, December, 1955, a statutory declaration and 198 pieces of documentary evidence were brushed aside and greeted by

silence on the treasury benches of this government."

Mr. Strachan said it might be possible to forgive the attorney-general for his initial error as a hasty decision and it could perhaps be put down to inexperience "and lack of appreciation of the requirements of his high office."

"The less charitable but more acceptable and reasonable view must be that he refused to act because he feared the impact the airing of such evidence would have on the standing of his government and his political party," he said. "I tend to the charitable view that his first decision was hasty."

The opposition leader traced events in the case from the time the government refused to set up a judicial inquiry into the charges at the beginning of 1956, the calling of a "snap" provincial election, dismissal of the slander suit brought by Mr. Sommers, and the establishment of a royal commission under former Chief Justice Gordon Sloan to examine the case.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Bonner To  
Of Angry

### 'Sudden About-Face'

"This was followed Nov. 21 by the sudden about-face of the attorney-general in the laying of criminal charges," he said.

"Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of this whole matter," he said "is the seeming unawareness by the attorney-general of his position."

Mr. Strachan then moved the traditional motion of non-confidence—that Mr. Bonner's salary be cut by \$1.

Blushing beet-red, Mr. Bonner charged that the opposition leader and other members of the opposition persisted in discussing the Sommers affair "never on the merits of the question, which is going to be decided fortunately and objectively in another tribunal."

It was a very subtle manoeuvre the opposition had been indulging in, he continued, "psychological jury-packing."

On Dec. 7, 1955, said Mr. Bonner, he had had an interview with both Mr. Sturdy and Mr. Eversfield at which a statutory declaration "in a most unusual and incomplete form" was presented.

"That statutory declaration had not come first to me, but to whom had it come?" he asked.

"Ron Howard."

"Who's he?" someone asked. "A very prominent Liberal," replied Mr. Bonner.

The attorney-general re-read a statement he had first made in the legislature in 1956, to the

Continued on Page 2

# Bonner Target Of Angry Barbs

Continued from Page 1

effect that "no material supposedly supporting contents of the declaration has at any time been presented to myself or the government."

Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie) who seconded the non-confidence motion, told the legislature that the main thing the opposition was concerned with was "Did the attorney-general do his duty when someone came along and produced a substantial accusation of bribery" against Mr. Sommers?

"I think the attorney-general just refused to face facts," he added. "I think he was just as horrified at the charges as we were... and he was paralyzed into inaction."

George Gregory, who at one time represented Mr. Sturdy as defence counsel in the slander suit, said: "I was going to recommend that we cut the whole salary because I don't feel the present incumbent (Mr. Bonner) deserves any salary for what he does."

## WHOSE IDEA?

Mr. Gregory said he wished to know the answers to certain specific questions: Whose idea was it to have an RCMP inquiry into the case instead of a judicial inquiry in 1956? How was it that the statutory declaration got into the hands of Mr. Sommers "so he could use it as the basis for a slander suit?"

"David Sturdy received a very substantial offer to withdraw the plea of justification and it was the suggestion... that the plaintiff (Mr. Sommers) would admit the words spoken were privileged," continued Mr. Gregory.

Mr. Sturdy first aired the content of the charges before the Sloan royal commission on forestry and when Mr. Sommers sued him for slander his defence was that the Sloan commission was privileged.

## WHOSE OFFER

"Who made the offer? Who made the offer?" government members called.

"I wouldn't ask that if I were you," replied Mr. Gregory.

Every single timber sale and forest management licence authorized by Mr. Sommers while minister should be investigated by the legislature, Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) told the House.

Perhaps Mr. Bonner had felt the allegations in the statutory declaration were "a political trick," he continued, but it was the attorney-general's duty to have the matter investigated.

## 'RUINATION'

"Letting this thing go on for 2½ years is going to be the ruination of this government," said Mr. Harding.

Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi bellowed that Mr. Harding was playing "the cheapest of politics."

"The cheapest politics was when you refused to meet your responsibilities in December, 1955," replied Mr. Harding.

Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) charged that opposition members "stand exposed by the tactics they have used, in that they don't believe in British justice—that a man is innocent until he is proven guilty."

Premier Bennett then threw himself into the fray.

He reviewed the events since

Gordon Gibson said "money talks" in the issuance of forest management licences, and noted that Mr. Gibson did not appear when the government set up the Lord inquiry to investigate the charge.

When the sturdy charges were first made, said the premier, he had asked Mr. Bonner what action should be taken by the government.

"The advice he got from senior officials was not to start it at this time because it was felt the civil case would clear it up," he said. "When the civil case ceased to exist I asked the attorney-general again. At that time it was the acting attorney-general, the minister of education (Leslie Peterson)."

## STORM GATHERED

The premier said he asked Mr. Peterson about the possibility of taking action, and "the advisers from the department — and he agreed — said there should be a royal commission. Then a storm started to gather around that commission."

"Under the royal commission certain additional papers had been secured. It was then the action was started. The government has done its duty, there has been no drawing away from the right course."

"I, as premier, would have liked to see it done right at the start and I'm sure the minister (Mr. Sommers) would have also. But then they would have said we had done it too quickly," the premier said.

"Whitewash," interjected Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook).

## NOT SHIRKING

"We're not using any whitewash," replied the premier. "We're not shirking our duty now. I have full confidence in the attorney-general and acting attorney-general Peterson and in the advice of their officials."

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan also defended the government's actions and referred again to the fact that after Mr. Gibson made his charge in the legislature he refused to appear before the Lord inquiry to give evidence.

"Do you wonder that we on this side of the House view with considerable skepticism anything emanating from the Liberal party?" he asked.

## ENGINEERED?

Mr. Strachan said he, too, might be prepared to agree with the minister that he viewed Liberal moves with "skepticism" but "is he suggesting that this case was engineered by the Liberal party?"

Once again George Gregory tried to get Mr. Bonner to tell how Mr. Sommers had obtained a copy of the statutory declaration.

"Over the last few months and stretching into years," began Mr. Bonner, "the third member for Victoria has brought a degree of unpleasantness in his assertions and innuendoes which is not equalled by any other single member of this House."

The statutory declaration, he said, did not have other evidence appended to it.

In fact, said Mr. Bonner, the material in question had been in Mr. Gregory's office all the time.

subtle man-  
tion had been  
e continued.  
ry-packing."  
said Mr. Bon-  
an interview  
urdy and Mr.  
h a statutory  
most unusual  
rm" was pre-  
declaration  
to me, but to  
e?" he asked.  
neone asked.  
ent Liberal,"  
heral re-read  
d first made  
n 1956, to the  
Page 2



## Inmates Not Worth It, Says Price

# 'Prison Expenditures Big Waste of Money'

A Social Credit backbencher said yesterday that provincial expenditures for prisons was "one of the greatest wastes of money in our province."

Bert Price (SC, Vancouver-Burrard) said it was "a shame" that so much money was spent on the jail program, argued that prisoners be made to work harder, and said the jail costs could be cut by \$1,000,000 at least.

Mr. Price, who was speaking on the estimated expenditures for correctional institutes in the coming year, said the \$6,500,000 costs was a waste because "they (the prisoners) are not worth it."

### RETURN TO DICKENS?

Opposition members accused the government whip of wanting to return jail conditions to the time of Dickens.

The member, who called for a return to the system where hard labor meant hard work, claimed that California lettuce and tomatoes were being imported for the prisoners while old-age pensioners had to go without.

### MAKE THEM WORK

"These jails are a disgrace," he said, "we should make these prisoners work."

He had every faith in Oakalla warden Hugh Christie, continued Mr. Price, but a riot could break out at Oakalla anytime. He accused "do-gooders" of not knowing what they are talking about in prisoner reform. Six months rehabilitation training for a prisoner at Haney was not enough, he said, because a man could not learn a trade in that time.

### GAMES, HOT BATHS

"The only way to get our jail population decreased is by providing hard work," said the member. "The prisoners get everything, games and people to tell them how to play, hot bathing facilities and other things. They have everything

and the kids outside (jails) can't even get a playground half the time.

"I ask for a program of work," he said. "The public deserves a better deal."

Opposition members, placed in the odd position of rushing to the defence of Attorney-General Robert Bonner whose prison rehabilitation program was under fire, severely criticized Mr. Price.

But the Socred member accused the CCF of a "sob-sister approach."

Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby) said it was obvious Mr. Price was taking the line that a prisoner could not be rehabilitated and if that was so, "I would like to ask why your (Social Credit) organization has

accepted a man who has been in prison." He did not elaborate.

## Implementing Forestry Changes

**C**ODIFICATION of a number of recommendations made in the Sloan report for the improvement of B.C. forest policies is the aim of an amending bill now introduced for first reading in the Legislature. Provisions in the measure imply no change in taxation, and substantially are without retroactive bearing. The terms and conditions under which forest licences are to be granted in the future, annual revision of the condition of licensed timber, pest control (mandatory if need be), and penalties against interference at Crown timber auctions are among the chief alterations set out in the bill.

Some 23 forest management licences already issued by the province are to remain in the tenure of their holders, but subject to general forest policy as it will be redrawn at this session. There may be considerable debate over the suggested 21-year term for future "tree farm licences," as they will be called, and the stricter terms of tenure mooted in that connection. Pest control, a problem in several sections of British Columbia's softwood stands, is to be stiffened; through voluntary co-operation on the part of timber holders in the first place, but mandatory and with a charge-back of remedial costs incurred by the province if there is lack of action. Basically all licences will rest on the test of satisfac-

tory performance, the precedent to their renewal.

In a blow aimed at extortion over intending bids for Crown timber at the regular provincial auctions, the bill would set up penalties and other restrictions for any illegal effort to stifle competition in the bidding. The fine of \$500 with a two-year suspension of the right to bid at such timber sales provided in the bill seems more of a token gesture than a punitive one, in view of the much higher values at stake in timber auctions; however that is a detail which may yet be reshaped in committee. What the measure does is to affirm the right of competitive bidding on timber sales by the Crown.

Discussion in the House may serve to bring out other aspects of the changes contemplated. Essentially, however, the government seems to have presented at least the leading recommendations of the Sloan report for incorporation now in provincial forest law. The shorter term of tenure under forest management licences, 21 years as against 100 years, is likely to prove the debatable item. That, however, is what Mr. Sloan suggested in his able and analytical report; coupled with the prospect of licence renewal for due performance in good faith. The amending measure is one of the important bills of the session.

## Down wi

**ALCOHOLIC AFFAIR:** Veteran independent MLA Tom Uphill of Fernie yesterday chose an odd way to interject a few comments on the subject of liquor during debate on Attorney-General Robert Bonner's estimates.

He praised Liquor Control Board chairman Donald McGugan and hit out "rabid prohibitionists" during discussion of a \$50,000 vote for the alcoholic foundation.

When Frank Richter, who was acting chairman, protested that the vote dealt with alcoholism, Mr. Uphill said: "Yes, alcohol—that's what I want to talk about."

Noting that there were some prohibitionists who wanted to deny everyone the right to drink in B.C., the 83-year-old member declared: "I believe my

friends mean to forgive them, for what they taught more drink... to drink canned heat."

### SOMETHING

**THEIR TEETH** nine-man committee set up to hear points over the board to decide technicians should deal with the having the den-

man. "Everybody kicking about and do so." He Martin told what the den-

## Tisdalle Cites Findings

# Future Delin Show Up

Potential juvenile delinquents can be spotted soon after they start school, John Tisdalle, (SC, Saanich) said last night.

Mr. Tisdalle is chairman of a standing committee on social welfare and education, appointed early in the present session of the legislature. The committee is inquiring into B.C.'s juvenile delinquency problem.

### TOO BUSY

"Those trends show up early in the primary grades at school," he said, "but teachers are too busy to correct them. Another indication gained from evidence heard so far is that there is not enough follow up—'big brother stuff'—taking a delinquent person under your wing."

The committee has held five



# Down with Prohibitionists'

**ALCOHOLIC AFFAIR:** Veteran independent MLA Tom Uphill of Fernie yesterday chose an odd way to interject a few comments on the subject of liquor during debate on Attorney-General Robert Bonner's estimates.

He praised Liquor Control Board chairman Donald McGugan and hit out "rabid prohibitionists" during discussion of a \$50,000 vote for the alcoholic foundation.

When Frank Richter, who was acting chairman, protested that the vote dealt with alcoholism, Mr. Uphill said: "Yes, alcohol—that's what I want to talk about."

Noting that there were some prohibitionists who wanted to deny everyone the right to drink in B.C., the 83-year-old member declared: "I believe my

friends mean well, but I will forgive them, for they know not what they do. Prohibition taught more youngsters to drink . . . to drink whisky and canned heat."

**SOMETHING TO SINK THEIR TEETH IN:** A special nine-man committee has been set up to hear different viewpoints over the proposed measure to establish a five-member board to decide whether dental technicians should be allowed to deal with the public without having the dentist as a middle man.

"Everybody who has been kicking about it can come and do so," Health Minister Eric Martin told reporters. "That's what the dentists want, that's what the cabinet wants, that's what the two caucuses (govern-

## Talking Politics By Peter Bruton

ment and CCF want, and that's what the legislature wants."

Committee members will be Mr. Martin, Mrs. Buda Brown (SC, Vancouver Point Grey), William Murray (SC, Prince Rupert), Bert Price (SC, Vancouver Burrard), Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca), Donald Smith (SC, Victoria), Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan), Cedric

Cox (CCF, Burnaby), and George Gregory (L, Victoria).

**LENGTHY BUSINESS:** Attorney-General Robert Bonner finally had all his proposed expenditures for the coming year approved by the legislature—but it took a grand total of some 10½ hours.

Observers said they believed this to be one of the longest debates on any departmental estimates for many years.

**BROTHERLY LOVE:** Oak Bay Liberal Archie Gibbs was questioning Education Minister Leslie Peterson about education grants, toward the end of yesterday's sitting, when Premier Bennett asked if the member would leave the matter until the next sitting so the House could adjourn.

"I won't be long, Mr. Premier," said Mr. Gibbs.

"Better watch out, Archie," said George Gregory, the only other Liberal in the House. "Otherwise we'll have a night sitting."

**DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT:** Opposition Leader Robert Strachan asked Attorney-General Robert Bonner yesterday if it were true that prisoners in Oakalla had milk and butter only on Sundays.

Replied Mr. Bonner: the leader of the opposition was misinformed as usual.

"Well, that's my understanding," shot back Mr. Strachan. "Maybe if the attorney-general spent two weeks in Oakalla he might change his mind about the leader of the opposition."

### Tisdalle Cites Findings

## Future Delinquents Show Up Early

Potential juvenile delinquents can be spotted soon after they start school, John Tisdalle, (SC, Saanich) said last night.

Mr. Tisdalle is chairman of a standing committee on social welfare and education, appointed early in the present session of the legislature. The committee is inquiring into B.C.'s juvenile delinquency problem.

### TOO BUSY

"Those trends show up early in the primary grades at school," he said, "but teachers are too busy to correct them. Another indication gained from evidence heard so far is that there is not enough follow-up—'big brother stuff'—taking a delinquent person under your wing."

The committee has held five

meetings so far and plans a further five or six. Next will be held in the Legislative Buildings this morning to consider a brief submitted by Magistrate Lionel Beaver-Potts of Nanaimo, and to hear evidence from Magistrate Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River.

## Consumers Would Bear Cost of Utilities Tax

Proposed municipal business tax on administrative offices of utility companies "would result ultimately in additional cost" to the public, representatives of B.C. Electric and B.C. Telephone companies told the legislative municipal affairs committee last night.

Douglas A. M. Patterson, counsel for the B.C. Electric said its municipal taxes had gone up more than 20 per cent in the last two years, a situation he called "a very strong case of hardship."

Victoria, which originally suggested the new tax, "had no good reason" to do so, said Mr. Patterson. The city now receives from B.C. Electric 33 per cent more than it would if the company were taxed by mill rate on assessed value of land and improvements.

He said this made it evident "we are already paying more than our fair share of taxes" in Victoria and other areas.

B.C. Telephone company officials said their payments to municipalities rose 200 per cent between 1948 and 1956 and jumped another 82 per cent last year.

## Talking Politics

# Punishments Turned Him Into Politician

By PETER BRUTON

Health Minister Eric Martin yesterday told a legislative committee that corporal punishment led to his being a politician.



ERIC MARTIN  
... became rebel

The welfare committee which was discussing corporal punishment for children, was told by the minister that such punishment had to depend on the sensitivity of the child.

"It didn't go over with me," he said, "I became a rebel against society and that's why I'm here today!"

One of the legislature's page boys has found a profitable way in which to while away the slack periods during the sittings.

He does his homework on a counter in the legislative corridors.

The page boys are all students from St. Louis College here.

## Gordon Wismer Looks In

A visitor to the legislature yesterday was former attorney-general Gordon Wismer who received words of praise from both sides of the House immediately the sitting began.

Mr. Wismer served as attorney-general for eight years prior to Social Credit coming to power in 1952—the longest term for any attorney-general in B.C.'s history.

A certain Social Credit backbencher, who shall remain nameless, has chalked up a reputation for being something of a practical joker.

The tables were turned the other day when someone placed a trick worm in his soup. It caused such a surprise to the member in question that the soup went all over the front of his suit.



GORDON WISMER  
... hears praise

# Foes Team For Varsity

Two Victoria members from opposing sides of the fence yesterday teamed together in the legislature to press for the establishment of a degree-granting university in Victoria.

George Gregory (Lib., Victoria) and Don Smith (SC, Victoria) both pressed for a university here during debate on the salary estimates of Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

Mr. Peterson said that although he was in sympathy with the idea it was not a matter for him to determine. He said Victoria College would not become a full-scale university until the Victoria College Council and the University of B.C. were convinced it could be.

"We certainly will co-operate with the growth and development (of the college) but we must leave the decision up to the council," said Mr. Peterson.

The same thing, he said, applied to any purchase of lands such as the Gordon Head Camp.

"We will give consideration to any proposal the college itself wishes to make," said the minister.

The topic was brought up by Mr. Smith who asked how soon could the city expect to see a university here. He said he could not see why parents had to be put through an additional cost by sending their children to Vancouver for higher education.

Not only would they lose money, he said, they would lose "sunshine." A university here would not only attract students

from all parts of Canada but from all parts of the world.

Mr. Gregory said the University of B.C. was getting too big and that it had been estimated a student roll of 23,000 would be at UBC within 10 years. This would make it one of the largest universities on the continent.

"Quality and size do not go together," said Mr. Gregory. "UBC is getting to be just the right size now. There should be an arts university in Victoria, I'm not suggesting that it be separate but it should be part of UBC in Victoria."

## Magistrates Offer Solution

# Schools

Two Vancouver Island magistrates said yesterday that schools must take part of the blame for juvenile delinquency.

Magistrates Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River and Lionel Beevor-Potts of Nanaimo made the observations in briefs submitted to a legislative committee probing the delinquency problem.

"Some school activities are positively misguided," said Magistrate Haig-Brown, noted conservationist and author. "For instance, the encouragement of mixed parties under school supervision before Grade 9. This is especially harmful to young girls and often gravely complicates the problems of parents."

## THREE R'S, DISCIPLINE

Commented Magistrate Beevor-Potts, who sent in a brief but did not appear personally: "There is too much catering to children (in schools) and not sufficient emphasis on the three R's with adequate discipline."

Magistrate Haig-Brown said the subject of delinquency was especially before the public at this time, not necessarily because it was more prevalent, but because juveniles had more formidable means of expressing themselves such as in automobiles.

Delinquency, he said, appeared more prevalent because of the transient and unrooted nature of the province at the present time.

## TOO MUCH TOO EASILY

"Construction work contributes to the situation more than any other activity," he stated. It resulted in inadequate homes and insecure homes, overloading of community facilities and services, too much money too easily earned by juveniles, and the inevitable sharp let-down in a democratic



R. L.

## Hansard Embarrassing

A Social Credit backbencher who has earned the reputation of being somewhat outspoken yesterday spoke out against establishment of a Hansard—a verbatim report of proceedings—in the B.C. legislature.

Cyril Shelford of Omineca said a Hansard would force government members to speak on every resolution or bill introduced, something they do not do at present. They have their say amid the secrecy of government caucus, he said, and there's no need to repeat their views again in the legislature.

A Hansard would change all that, he continued, because constituents who read what was said in the legislature would continually ask a member why he hadn't spoken about this or that. The implication: If a constituent asks such a question now it's very easy to get out of an embarrassing situation by blaming the press for not bothering to report what goes on.

Gordon Dowling (CCF, Burn-

aby) said there was a very good reason why a Hansard should be established because "school children won't be able to find out what Social Credit was 20 years from now." It would also be invaluable, he said, for future scholars making "psychiatric studies."

Debate on the CCF resolution calling for the government to consider institution of a Hansard was adjourned.

For several weeks now the opposition has reminded Premier Bennett that Wednesday is traditionally private members' day—that day when resolutions and bills introduced by individual MLAs should be debated.

But the premier up until yesterday has gone on with the normal run of things, much to the chagrin of the CCF. Yesterday, however, the private members were given the opportunity to discuss the various items they had introduced.

At one point 22 of the 39 "private members" were absent from the House.



Magistrates Offer Solutions

More Discipline, Less Driving

# Schools Breed

# Delinquency

Two Vancouver Island magistrates said yesterday that schools must take part of the blame for juvenile delinquency.

Magistrates Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River and Lionel Beevor-Potts of Nanaimo made the observations in briefs submitted to a legislative committee probing the delinquency problem.

"Some school activities are positively misguided," said Magistrate Haig-Brown, noted conservationist and author. "For instance, the encouragement of mixed parties under school supervision before Grade 9. This is especially harmful to young girls and often gravely complicates the problems of parents."

## THREE R'S, DISCIPLINE

Commented Magistrate Beevor-Potts, who sent in a brief but did not appear personally: "There is too much catering to children (in schools) and not sufficient emphasis on the three R's with adequate discipline."

Magistrate Haig-Brown said the subject of delinquency was especially before the public at this time, not necessarily because it was more prevalent, but because juveniles had more formidable means of expressing themselves such as in automobiles.

Delinquency, he said, appeared more prevalent because of the transient and unrooted nature of the province at the present time.

## TOO MUCH TOO EASILY

"Construction work contributes to the situation more than any other activity," he stated. It resulted in inadequate homes and insecure homes, overloading of community facilities and services, too much money too easily earned by juveniles, and the inevitable sharp let-down in



R. L. HAIG-BROWN

the community when construction is completed.

Public schools had attempted to take an increasing part in developing the social life and activities of students and there was a "danger" in this because it tended to reduce the sense of family responsibility "which is all-important and the only truly effective means of reducing delinquency," he continued.

"It should be emphasized that the school must establish itself as an autocratic institution, not a democratic and permissive

one if it is to give proper support to parental authority," he said. "To this end, principals and teachers should be better protected from parental interference in purely school matters."

Perhaps the most important role schools could play in the problem, said the magistrate, was the early detection of potential delinquents and the referring of these to the proper welfare services. All children scoring below 80 IQ (borderline deficiency) should be immediately referred to the child-guidance clinic and parents would be offered guidance.

## WORKERS UNDERPAID

One of the essentials in fighting delinquency, he said, was to have a fully staffed welfare service but in B.C. at present this was understaffed and underpaid and workers were not readily available.

There had never been an adequate probation service in the province either, he continued and B.C. "has not got one now."

"An adequate probation service can handle up to 75 per cent of the cases that come before the courts and it can do so at a cost of \$150 a year for each offender compared to an institutional cost of \$2,000," he told the committee.

Magistrate Beevor-Potts stated in his brief there was insufficient recreational facilities for juveniles at present and there

was not sufficient voluntary supervision under the guidance of fully-trained supervisors.

"In this regard I think the schools must take a certain amount of responsibility, particularly if the parents are not doing their duty," he said.

Except in definite cases of necessity no child should be allowed to take cars to school, he said. "Make them walk or take a bus."

## DRIVING OVERDONE

"It appears to me there should be legislation restricting the owning and operating of automobiles in the present manner for all those attending the schools of our province," he continued. "I feel that it would do a great deal of good for these children, who are almost exclusively in our high schools, to walk or to use a bicycle and it would tend to improve their school reports and school work in general."

"Not many years ago the Nanaimo district record of juvenile delinquency passing through the courts was one of the highest in Canada," concluded Magistrate Beevor-Potts. "It is now, I believe, one of the lowest."

"The reduction of juvenile delinquency in this area commenced when I changed my attitude of giving delinquents too many chances and particularly when probation service was established in this district."

## Public Opinion Saved Borstal

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Tuesday that the weight of public opinion forced the government to change its decision to close the New Haven borstal.

"The public became upset and obviously there was no reason to carry on with the proposal when the public opposed it," he said.



## Premier Away, Opposition Wins Day

# Bossless Socreds Wilt

**REVERSED FIELD:** Only really astute politician in Social Credit ranks is Premier Bennett and as long as he is in the legislature the opposition has a tough time trying to find a chink in government armor. It's a different matter when he leaves the House, as he did yesterday.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson quickly found himself swamped in a sea of troubles when he tried to get approval for a \$43,658,000 grant towards the cost of education without telling the legislature whether the \$4,500,000 additional over last year would mean a change in the formula of paying grants to school boards.

The opposition would find out when the new Public Schools Act was introduced later this session, he said, as CCFers and Liberals lashed out at this "erosion" of parliamentary processes.

"All we ask is that you put this vote aside until we see the new legislation," explained Opposition Leader Robert Strachan. "This House

is entitled to an explanation where the increase is going. Let's know what we are voting for."

Mr. Peterson and Attorney-General Robert Bonner flatly refused but a call was put in to Premier Bennett who returned to the shambles a few minutes later. He listened for a while, heard someone liken the situation to the infamous pipeline debate in Ottawa, and whispered something to the education minister.

"The points are not well taken," said a red-faced Mr. Peterson, "but rather than take the time of the House ... I'm prepared to have the vote held over."

It had taken an hour but the opposition was well satisfied with its total victory.

## Talking Politics By Peter Bruton

**PROBLEMS OF HIS OWN:** Social workers and probation officers have some very big problems of their own, a legislative committee probing juvenile delinquency was told yesterday.

"A man may be a very skilled probation officer with a real capacity for dealing with disturbed offenders," said Professor W. G. Dixon, director of the school of social work of UBC. "But the size of his pay cheque confronts him with a social problem each month."

"On occasion he finds that some of his more difficult clients earn much more than he does," he added.

**WELL ARMED:** Most cab-

inet ministers, when their departmental estimates come up for debate, bring in top officials in the various departments to help them frame answers to the different questions.

Some ministers have two departmental experts to help them.

Health Minister Eric Martin evidently expected a rough time this year—he had four advisers clustered around him.

**COURSE FOR POLITICIANS:** Opposition Leader Robert Strachan—asking a question about correspondence courses—told the House that he had been a correspondence student a few years ago.

"That's how we train the leaders of the opposition," said Tony Gargrave (CCF, Mackenzie).

"Yes, you're to blame," Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) called to Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

"I hesitate to take responsibility," replied the minister.

## How to Win Respect

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL BONNER'S** simple admission that it was public opinion which persuaded the B.C. government to reverse the decision to close New Haven borstal institution wins him a salute instead of a rebuke. It amounted to a confession that the government had made a wrong judgment, but Mr. Bonner need feel neither shame nor embarrassment on that account. The fact that he made haste to correct the error and then frankly informed the House of the change of mind serves to increase public respect rather than diminish it.

This is not the first time Premier Bennett's government, unlike its predecessors, has had the courage to acknowledge a mistake and yield to the pressure

of public opinion. It is, however, an example of candor uncommon among governments generally, where the idea seems to prevail that any error of judgment, even a small one, must be covered up at all costs.

Politics would be a more respected calling if only men in office could understand that people admire those who admit their mistakes and repair them but have little use for those who stubbornly pursue a wrong policy in the belief that to reverse a decision brings loss of face. A government responsive to the wishes of the public to the extent of saying "We were wrong" commands confidence, whereas in politics as in private life the man who is always right in everything has few friends.

## Dentistry Faculty Supported

Education Minister Leslie Peterson said yesterday University of British Columbia would get "100 per cent co-operation" from the government if it opened a dental faculty.

But, he said, the decision must come from the university.

## Not a Voice Raised As Totem Cash Cut

A \$4,500 cut in the money set aside for totem pole carving in the coming year was approved by the legislature yesterday. No member on either side of the House spoke in passing a vote for \$7,500. Last year the appropriation was \$12,000.

## Why Were Documents D

## Ottawa Fa

## Over B.C.

## In Health

## Agreement Finally Arrives

The provincial government is "deeply concerned" over Ottawa's delay in sending a draft agreement to B.C. for a national health care plan, Health Minister Eric Martin said last night.

He accused the federal government of discriminating against this province in favor of Ontario which has already signed the agreement.

### JUST ARRIVED

He told the legislature last night that the draft agreement had only just arrived here for signing and was a copy of the one signed by Ontario despite the fact that B.C. was the first province to signify its willingness to enter into a national health care program.

"It is obvious that the federal government is not as anxious to have British Columbians benefit under this plan as they are to have Ontario's people participate," he said.

### EAGER TO SIGN

"B.C. is eager, willing and anxious to sign an agreement with the federal government in order to expedite the implementation of this program," said the minister. "However we can do nothing if the federal government delays in sending us the necessary documents."

"We have always co-operated in every possible manner to ensure the smooth and speedy start of the national plan," Mr. Martin told the house.

### EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT

"These unexplained and discriminate delays by the federal government make it exceedingly difficult for us to proceed. We have other urgent queries on their desks which must be answered before we can take action, but again we must wait the pleasure of the federal government," he said.

This province could not sign an agreement to enter the national health scheme until the federal government offered more co-operation and replies to the provincial queries, he stated.

## To T St At

Three Edward couver legisla commit what generat John chairma investigat quency. invited of corr They Gordon ness. Mr. know planned "but we to hear

Why Were Documents Delayed?

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958

# Ottawa Favors East Over B.C. In Health Plan,

## Agreement Finally Arrives

The provincial government is "deeply concerned" over Ottawa's delay in sending a draft agreement to B.C. for a national health care plan, Health Minister Eric Martin said last night.

He accused the federal government of discriminating against this province in favor of Ontario which has already signed the agreement.

### JUST ARRIVED

He told the legislature last night that the draft agreement had only just arrived here for signing and was a copy of the one signed by Ontario despite the fact that B.C. was the first province to signify its willingness to enter into a national health care program.

"It is obvious that the federal government is not as anxious to have British Columbians benefit under this plan as they are to have Ontario's people participate," he said.

### EAGER TO SIGN

"B.C. is eager, willing and anxious to sign an agreement with the federal government in order to expedite the implementation of this program," said the minister. "However we can do nothing if the federal government delays in sending us the necessary documents."

"We have always co-operated in every possible manner to ensure the smooth and speedy start of the national plan," Mr. Martin told the house.

### EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT

"These unexplained and discriminate delays by the federal government make it exceedingly difficult for us to proceed. We have other urgent queries on their desks which must be answered before we can take action, but again we must wait the pleasure of the federal government," he said.

This province could not sign an agreement to enter the national health scheme until the federal government offered more co-operation and replies to the provincial queries, he stated.

## Martin Charges

'Gaining Results'—'Menace to People'

## Hoxsey Splits CCF

### Archives Cash Cut Saddens Opposition

Reduction in staff and operating capital for the provincial library and archives was deplored by opposition members in the legislature yesterday.

"This is not the time to curtail services . . . this is our centennial year," said Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan).

Education Minister Leslie Peterson, under whose department the library and archives operate, promised the House there would be no reduction in service and that if additional staff or money was needed during the coming year it would be provided.

### To Tell Their Side

## Students to Speak At Juvenile Probe

Three students from King Edward High School in Vancouver will appear before the legislative health and welfare committee next week to tell what is wrong with their generation.

John Tisdalle (SC—Saanich) chairman of the committee investigating juvenile delinquency, said the three were invited to appear "as a result of correspondence."

They are John Thompson, Gordon Carey and Gary Harkness.

Mr. Tisdalle said he didn't know what the students planned to tell the committee, "but we shall certainly be glad to hear them."

Meanwhile, Prof. W. G. Dixon, head of the School of Social Work, said the juvenile court system has not kept up with developments in public health and welfare services.

He suggested the system should be studied with a view to reorganization, as did E. R. Rickinson, deputy minister of welfare.

Prof. Dixon said juvenile judgeships should be made full-time positions and suggested some form of regional administration of the courts.

Creation of a provincial senior juvenile court judgeship to supervise establishment of county juvenile courts was suggested by Mr. Rickinson.

### Sommers Back

Former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers was back in his seat in the legislature yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Sommers, Social Credit member for Rossland-Trail, is on \$10,000 bail after being committed for trial on bribery conspiracy charges resulting from the issuance of forest management licences.

A lengthy and sometimes bitter debate over the cancer cure claims of Harry M. Hoxsey caused a rift in the CCF ranks last night during discussion of health and welfare estimates.

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said he felt Hoxsey was curing cancer and "I feel this man has something there that is gaining results."

Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie), who spoke immediately after Mr. Harding, labelled Hoxsey "a psychopathic paranoid who is a menace to people who have cancer in North America."

The CCF members were giving personal views on the UBC investigating committee report which branded the Hoxsey cure useless and even dangerous.

Health Minister Eric Martin, who for more than two hours refused to give his views on the report, finally said that "it's not for me to comment because I'm not qualified to do so. This subject is of a very controversial nature."

Mr. Harding argued that the report was not complete and had not been thorough enough.

"Are we doing the right thing in accepting blindly this report?" he asked. "We can't afford to let this report go through without doing more work on it. I hope it will make you curious enough to see yourselves these unfortunate people (who have cancer and are being cured by Hoxsey) before we accept this report."

Mr. Gargrave urged the government to support research by medical men into cancer cures and said it was "disgusting" that someone should allege to the world that they had a cure.



TUE

# 'Best for Public'

# Natural To Own

A bill giving complete control over the profession was introduced in the legislature. The bill, introduced by Minister Eric Smeeta, would create a board of supervisors to regulate naturopaths and their activities for malpractice. Membership would be limited to naturopaths.

The proposed government would have less control over the profession than before. The legislation that gets a certificate will come from naturopathic from an "exam." All members of the B.C. Association of Naturopathic Physicians would be required to take the new law.

The new law would give naturopaths first aid training, first aid training, and first aid training, and the taking of the Naturopathic bill as "the natural method of therapeutics."



# Island Roads Budget Hiked

Opposition pressure apparently forced Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi to take a "second look" and increase road maintenance appropriations for the coming fiscal year.

The decision, which came to light during debate on the minister's salary estimate last night, shows the government plans to spend \$6,612,000 in the various electoral districts of the province compared with the \$5,200,000 originally announced by Mr. Gaglardi in the budget debate two weeks ago.

## MORE FOR ISLAND

An additional \$199,000 will be spent on Vancouver Island roads—an increase from \$758,000 to \$957,000.

Opposition members, who had hit out at cuts in district appropriations for general maintenance work during the coming year, said the revision would bring this year's expenditures "almost up to" the level of last year.

Totals to be spent on Vancouver Island in the coming year, with the new increases

in brackets: Alberni, \$121,000 (\$26,000); Comox, \$270,000 (\$58,000); Cowichan-Newcastle, \$160,000 (\$34,000); Esquimalt, \$166,000 (\$36,000); Nanaimo-Island, \$152,000 (\$33,000); Saanich, \$98,000 (\$22,000).

## TOO OFTEN ABSENT

Earlier in the debate Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said he felt it was time "we had a full-time minister of highways" in the province.

In the 1956-57 fiscal year, he said, Mr. Gaglardi had been away from his office in Victoria for 185 days, "and that doesn't include time off to take part in the Saskatchewan or B.C. elections."

George Gregory (Lib., Victoria) said he felt Vancouver Island was coming out on the short end of the stick when it came to highway work. The Island, he said, had about 10 per cent of the highways in B.C. and about 17.8 per cent of the vehicles registered in the province.

## ISLAND FAVORED

"I would like to know why we are getting less than 15 per cent of the highway appropriation and less than 10 per cent of highways," he said.

But Mr. Gaglardi said no part of the province had received more attention from any government than Vancouver Island has had since Societal Credit came to power.

"Certainly more should be done," he stated. "But we're fair in our allocation to Vancouver Island."

## Naturopaths To Control Own Licensing

A bill giving naturopaths complete control of their own profession was given first reading in the legislature yesterday.

The bill, introduced by Health Minister Eric Martin, eliminates a board of supervisors set up in 1948 to act as overseers to the naturopaths and rule on applications for naturopathy certificates. Members were not naturopaths.

The proposed bill gives the government no more and no less control over the profession than before. Under the new legislation the ruling as to who gets a certificate to practise will come from a board of naturopathic physicians and from an "examining board." All members will be taken from the B.C. Association of Naturopathic Physicians.

The new bill also gives the naturopaths the right to give first aid treatment to minor cuts and abrasions, bandaging and the taking of blood samples.

Naturopathy is defined in the bill as "the art of healing by natural methods or by drugless therapeutics."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1958

# New Legislation Will End School Row Deadlock

*Both Sides in Dispute Will Have to Toe Line*

Blacklisting of school districts by teachers and refusal of school boards to negotiate salary schedules will be ended if the legislature approves provisions of the revised Public Schools Act.

This winter, some school boards "set" salary schedules after little or no negotiations with teachers, and teachers have urged their colleagues not to accept positions in districts listed as not having reached a satisfactory salary settlement.

The proposed revised act raps

the knuckles of both sides. The present act doesn't compel boards to negotiate. The revised act provides that if either side wants to reopen an agreement, there must be negotiation.

If negotiation has not succeeded by Oct. 31, two conciliators chosen by teachers and board must go to work by Nov. 5. If the conciliators don't succeed by Nov. 15, the dispute must go to arbitration.

## ISSUE FORCED

If one party appoints an arbitrator and the other doesn't, a judge of county court can appoint the second arbitrator. (The two appoint a chairman.)

If neither side appoints an arbitrator, the salary schedule remains as it is.

Arbitration must be completed and an award made by Dec. 31. (At present, Feb. 14 is the deadline for arbitration).

## OBSTRUCTION CLAUSE

Finally, the revised act provides that a person or association obstructing or trying to obstruct employment of a teacher by a board, or trying to dissuade a teacher seeking a job because of salaries being paid, is guilty of an offence. (Fine can be up to \$500).

It likewise prohibits anyone from trying to dissuade a board from giving proper consideration to any application for a job—so trustees can't blacklist teachers, either.

Neither of these provisions, however, will become effective until Sept. 1.

## New Act Briefs

Municipal officials last night refused to comment on the new Public Schools Act.

Mayor Percy Scurrell said the matter will be discussed in Duncan today by Vancouver Island Municipalities Association.

Reeve G. C. Murison, North Cowichan, said representatives of Union of B.C. Municipalities and B.C. School Trustees' Association will meet Education Minister Peterson Saturday.

Under new act, "municipal inspectors of schools" will become District Superintendents of Schools.

The revised Public Schools Act will make substantial changes in school board budgets, but the changes can't be made until the act becomes law at the end of the legislative session.

## Teachers, Boards Both Seem Happy

Cautious approval of proposed new legislation governing salary dealings between school boards and teachers was expressed last night by both sides.

Proposed are changes to the Public Schools Act making mandatory a process of salary negotiations followed by conciliation and then, if necessary, arbitration.

The changes follow education department criticism of school boards for high-handedly setting salaries without seeking conciliation and of the B.C. Teachers' Federation for advising members to boycott districts where wages were held "in dispute."

"There's definite merit in the proposed new setup," Walter Kitley, secretary of the Victoria Teachers' Association

wage negotiation committee said. "In general the machinery is better than in the past."

He said the teachers would, however, "study closely" a clause providing fines for persons or associations "trying to obstruct employment . . . or trying to dissuade a teacher from seeking a job" in a given district.

"I'm not too happy about that," Mr. Kitley said. "The intent would seem to be to bar teachers from commenting on a situation they didn't like."

"It (the new legislation) sounds like an improvement to me," said Mrs. W. W. McGill, Greater Victoria School Board chairman.

"If it had been in effect this year the salary question here would have gone to arbitration—as we expected it to do," she said.

## 'Sorry' Signs Huge Joke Says Nimsick

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi's "sorry" signs are nothing but a "huge joke and a laughing stock," Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) told the legislature Monday night.

Not so, said Mr. Gaglardi, "they've been copied all over North America—as far away as Hawaii."

"They're just a waste of money," said Mr. Nimsick.

"They're a courtesy sign," Mr. Gaglardi said of his "sorry for any inconvenience" signs.

## Weapon Against

## Lazy, Unruly

*Warning, Then Out*

B.C. high school children who won't apply themselves to their studies may in future lose their chance to go to school.

The revised Public Schools Act introduced in the legislature yesterday provides school boards with the new power to "prohibit from further attendance" pupils of 15 or more who persist in being lazy or unruly.

(At present, boards can only expel pupils who are persistently disobedient or addicted to a vice or practice likely to injuriously affect other pupils.)

This power, if exercised, will rid high school classes of a menace that teachers have complained about strongly—the small minority who won't work, won't respect authority, and whose insolent attitude adversely affects their classmates.

The new sections of the act provides that such students must be given warning. They may be tossed out if they don't make a reasonable effort to reform. (They may be re-admitted later.)

Another clarified section of the act provides that anyone who "disturbs, interrupts or disquiets" any school or any official school function is liable to a fine not exceeding \$50. It also provides that the principal of a school may require adequate assistance from any constable or peace officer to restore order on school premises.



## Weapon Against Menaces

# Lazy, Unruly Face Expulsion

### Warning, Then Out

B.C. high school children who won't apply themselves to their studies may in future lose their chance to go to school.

The revised Public Schools Act introduced in the legislature yesterday provides school boards with the new power to "prohibit from further attendance" pupils of 15 or more who persist in being lazy or unruly.

(At present, boards can only expel pupils who are persistently disobedient or addicted to a vice or practice likely to injuriously affect other pupils.)

This power, if exercised, will rid high school classes of a menace that teachers have complained about strongly — the small minority who won't work, won't respect authority, and whose insolent attitude adversely affects their classmates.

The new sections of the act provides that such students must be given warning. They may be tossed out if they don't make a reasonable effort to reform. (They may be re-admitted later.)

Another clarified section of the act provides that anyone who "disturbs, interrupts or disrupts" any school or any official school function is liable to a fine not exceeding \$50. It also provides that the principal of a school may require adequate assistance from any constable or peace officer to restore order on school premises.

### School Property Subject to Tax

School board property in municipalities will be subject to municipal taxation in future, according to the revised Public Schools Act. If, it is revenue-producing.

## Talking Politics

By Peter Bruton

# Buying E & N Lands 'Poor Proposition'

**BAD INVESTMENT:** Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said yesterday the government felt it would be a "poor proposition" to buy back the E & N lands as recommended by former chief justice Gordon Sloan in his report on the forest industry.

Most of the timber—which Mr. Sloan recommended be bought for \$108,000,000—was almost completely accessible to small operators and its purchase would do nothing to solve the basic problems at this time, he said.

Mr. Williston was commenting on a statement by Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) that the failure of the government to accept Mr. Sloan's recommendation on this point was "a per-

fect example of the lack of courage" of the provincial administration.

★ ★ ★

**PHIL THE PHRASE-FINDER:** It was about a year ago when Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi came up with his own definition of what the letters CCF stood for. It meant, he said, "Confused, Confounded and Frustrated."

Now Mr. Gagliardi has come up with a new definition.

"Canadian Cackling Fraternity."

★ ★ ★

**SCOOP SCORED:** Criticism of a Vancouver newspaper for obtaining an advance copy of the Sloan report on forestry last fall and printing it before it was officially released was voiced yesterday by CCFer John Squire of Alberni.

"The leak on the report was not in the best interest of the affairs of this province," he said, adding he hoped it would not happen again.

The newspaper (The Vancouver Sun) should "hang its head in shame," Mr. Squire stated and he said he wondered if there was a war on whether a newspaper would adopt the same tactics in going after secrets.

★ ★ ★

**SUPERSTITIOUS?:** Blair Fraser, Ottawa editor of Maclean's Magazine, has been in Victoria for the past two days compiling material on the Social Credit government for a special B.C. centennial edition to be published in May.

Last time Mr. Fraser wrote an article on the B.C. government—early in 1952—the Coalition was swept from office to be replaced by Social Credit.

removing the cause of the smell, which is monopolistic control of our forest resources."

★ ★ ★

**TIGHT SCHEDULE:** Premier Bennett will have a busy day today.

He is due to fly to Fort St. John, travel the 65 miles back down to the township of Chetwynd, ride into Chetwynd on the first Pacific Great Eastern train over the newly-laid track, make a speech, drive back to Fort St. John and fly back to Victoria where he hopes to arrive in time for tonight's sitting of the legislature.

The ceremonies are being held at Chetwynd to mark the occasion of track being laid to the junction from which lines will fork to Dawson Creek and Fort St. John.

### A ROSE BY ANY OTHER

**NAME:** One of the changes in the forestry legislation now before the House calls for the renaming of forest management licenses to "tree farm licences."

This switch led Opposition Leader Robert Strachan to comment: "The name tree farm is an attempt to deodorize forest management licences, without

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1958

# Wicks Blasts Owners Of Britannia Mine

Legislative committee members yesterday blasted a U.S. company for being "unfair" in its attitude toward a probe of the closure of the Britannia copper mine.

The Howe Sound Company was accused by Labor Minister Lyle Wicks of failing to go out of its way to aid the labor committee, which has been charged with investigating the closure which has thrown some 800 men out of work.

The blasts came after general manager A. G. Kirkland said he was unable to answer a number of questions asked by the committee about economic problems involved in the shutdown of the mine late last month.

"It seems to me they're not taking seriously the work of this committee," said Mr. Wicks. "It's not fair to this committee, they should have someone here with more authority."

## SALT LAKE CITY

The firm, parent company of the Britannia Mining and Smelting Company, is based in Salt Lake City.

Cedric Fox (CCF, Burnaby) moved that officers of the company be subpoenaed but committee chairman Bert Price stated this could not be done so long as the committee was hearing voluntary submissions. But, he added, it could be done at a later date.

Mr. Kirkland said the Britannia mine could be reopened later if the world price for copper rose to 30 cents a pound again but that it was not profitable to run the mine at the present prevailing price of 19 to 20 cents.

## WAIT FOR WAR

"It seems a sad situation if we have to close a natural resource such as Britannia and have to wait for a war to open up again," commented Mr. Price.

"I didn't mean to leave that impression," said Mr. Kirkland.

A fair amount of research was being undertaken to try to find new uses for copper, said the mine manager, but aluminum had made big inroads

that the copper industry probably would never regain.

Mr. Kirkland indicated there was hope the mine might reopen in a few months and that the company preferred to think of it just as "a suspension of operations."

## UNION DELEGATION

The manager's appearance followed that of a delegation from the international union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (Western District).

It was claimed that closure of the mine was an attempt to break the powerful union.

"We have come to the conclu-

sion that no solution is acceptable to the employer except one which will wipe out the rights and conditions that have been established by the workers," the union brief stated.

# Forest Laws 'Flabby Error'

The provincial government's new forestry legislation was termed yesterday "a languid, flabby attempt to correct the mistakes of the past."

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the legislation "does nothing . . . and does it with poor grace."

He said there was general agreement that forest management licences granted in perpetuity were wrong. The government now brought down legislation limiting the life of a FML to 21 years on a renewable basis.

"So what are we trying to do?" he asked. "We are trying to make them only half wrong, only a quarter wrong."

The subject came up when Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston's salary estimates were discussed yesterday afternoon.

"The public has absolutely no confidence in a system of forestry which gives them no say, no say as to who will get the licences or what will be done once companies are given the licences," he said.

Mr. Williston said he neither subscribed to nor agreed with Mr. Strachan's views, which, he said, were almost in direct opposition with the recommendations in the Sloan report.

School

Ra

Edu  
Swit

Continued from

over the 1955 level. The act calls for it to be 10 per cent, which will mean a considerable saving to taxpayers.

These two changes are expected to add millions to the provincial treasury. The provincial cation costs, but payers' minimum also be increased.

Instead of a 10 per cent, under the new law will pay 12 mills of operating costs. (1 mill is one-tenth of a cent.) Taxpayers have seven mills and a half.

MILL RATE DROPS

According to information from the government, the drop in mill rates will mean a 10 per cent of B.C. districts as a result of changes, and a decrease of two mill rates otherwise for five and even 10 mills.

Local taxpayers



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1958

## School Tax Load Shifted

# Ratepayers to Get Break

## New Act Benefits Property Owners

By R. O. MARRION

Education Minister Leslie Peterson introduced a revised Public Schools Act in the legislature yesterday which will lighten the load of education costs on many of B.C. property taxpayers.

In districts where school tax rates are not reduced, they will not rise as much as they would without the provisions of the revised act.

In the Greater Victoria district, little change in the school mill rate this year was foreseen last night.

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Other important changes proposed in the act include these:

It will enable children of 15 or more who won't apply themselves to their school work, the defiant small minority, to be prohibited from further attendance—kicked out.

It will bar school boards from refusing to negotiate with their teachers on salaries, and teachers from blacklisting school boards over salaries. (It will also bar school trustees from blacklisting teachers.) It will result in teachers' salary scales being set earlier, a boon to municipal budgeters. (See separate stories on Page 9.)

### PRESENT METHOD

Under the present act, the provincial treasury and the local taxpayers have shared operating costs of schools according to a formula that has increasingly disturbed the municipalities.

Generally, the taxpayers in municipal areas have paid 10 mills (about \$40 or \$50 for the average home-owner) plus the portion of operating costs not "approved" by the province; the province has paid the rest.

### COST \$482,000

The province has not approved teachers' salaries in excess of a basic salary-grant schedule laid down in 1955 on a 1954 salary basis. Last year, this lack of provincial approval for current salaries cost the Greater Victoria taxpayers an extra \$482,000.

The revised act, if passed as proposed, will bring the grant schedule to the 1957 provincial average of current salaries. Greater Victoria's salary schedule was a little under the 1957 provincial average, but the district's 1958 schedule will exceed it.

(No indication has been given that the grant schedule will be revised again at any specific time or interval.)

Under the present act, the province has paid 75 per cent of the increase in all approved operating costs of the schools

Continued on Page 2

## Education Act Switches Load

Continued from Page 1

over the 1955 level. The revised act calls for it to pay 100 per cent, which will mean a considerable saving to the municipal taxpayers.

These two changes are expected to add millions of dollars to the provincial share of education costs, but the local taxpayers' minimum shares will also be increased.

Instead of a minimum 10 mills, under the revised act they will pay 12 mills toward school operating costs. (In rural areas, taxpayers have been paying seven mills and will pay nine.)

### MILL RATE DROP SEEN

According to informed sources, the government anticipates a drop in mill rates this year in 35 per cent of B.C.'s school districts as a result of these changes, and a maximum increase of two mills even in districts otherwise facing boosts of five and even 10 mills.

Local taxpayers also pay 50

per cent of the capital costs of a school district up to three mills of taxation, and then the province pays 75 per cent of the cost in excess of that. A revision provides that when the local load reaches 4½ mills, the province will pay 90 per cent of the further costs.

### LAST YEAR'S COST

Last year, Victorians paid about 15 mills for school operation and capital costs. Almost two mills of that amount was for capital costs.

This year, city officials reasoned last night, they can expect to pay 12 mills as a basic share of operating costs, a bit more than last year in capital costs, and perhaps still about a mill in unapproved operating costs, so the total mill rate may be about the same.

## Gregory Warns Williston:

# 'Probe or Risk Scandal'

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston was warned yesterday that unless he orders a thorough investigation to determine whether there was any impropriety in the granting of existing forest management licences he "will become involved in the scandal already around the head of his predecessor."

George Gregory (Lib., Victoria) issued the warning during the debate on the minister's salary estimates in the legislature.

The Victoria member referred to the fact that former minister Robert E. Sommers had been committed for trial on a charge of conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences and that this meant "there is a prima facie case of guilt."

He took exception to a statement in the debate by Mr. Williston that he had found "nothing out of line" after personally reviewing the licences granted during the time Mr. Sommers was in office.

"We in the Liberal group, and we believe most of the people in British Columbia, think there was something very seriously wrong in the administration of the lands and forests department under your predecessor," said Mr. Gregory.

He was immediately warned by Chairman Alex Matthew that he must not speak on matters that had been ruled sub judice but Mr. Gregory argued he would merely deal with questions that had already appeared as newspaper headlines.

### AFFIDAVIT CITED

The Liberal member stated that Mr. Sommers and others had been committed for trial and that in the civil case, which was thrown out last year after Mr. Sommers had failed to appear to press his slander suit against Vancouver lawyer David Sturdy, the former minister had sworn an affidavit listing promissory notes he had given H. W. Gray amounting to \$6,500 between Nov. 23, 1953, and March 1, 1954.

Butt Colonialist, Victoria, B.C. 13  
Wednesday, March 12, 1958

"And this same man, Gray, was committed for trial on a charge of conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences," said Mr. Gregory.

### TIME HAS COME

Mr. Gregory said the time had come when the government should ask someone competent, such as former chief justice Gordon Sloan, to make a thorough investigation of the way in which existing licences were granted.

Criminal courts were no place to conduct an inquiry into whether there had been any impropriety in the granting of forest management licences, he said, and many things involved in such an inquiry would be ruled irrelevant.

"But, if the present minister proposes to do nothing further in investigating how these licences have been granted he will find he will become involved in the same scandal that is already around the head of his predecessor," Mr. Gregory stated.

## Electricians' Strike

# 'Can't A

Strike of B.C. Electric Com-  
pany electricians was scored in  
the legislature yesterday.

George Gregory (Lib., Vic-

toria) pl  
ment to  
sure tha  
cripple t  
will seek  
make a  
for all  
business  
lic Utili  
"We  
power f  
vince,"  
will me  
much h  
good m  
phone  
elevator

"I call  
announc  
ment is  
electrici

Labor  
whose e  
bated a  
"in due  
necessar  
policy v  
that tir  
In the

## Socred Asks Security Act For Wages

Legislation which would guarantee the payment of wages to employees and contractors in the event of a company going bankrupt was urged yesterday by R. O. Newton (SC, Columbia).

Mr. Newton said that a wages security act, such as was in force in Alberta was "absolutely necessary" and asked that it be brought in this session.

He referred to the closure of a logging and sawmill company at Donald, 14 miles from Golden, where the firm went bankrupt and \$56,000 in wages was owed employees.



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## Electricians' Strike Hit in House

# 'Can't Allow Blackout'

Strike of B.C. Electric Company electricians was scored in the legislature yesterday.

George Gregory (Lib., Vic-

toria) pleaded with the government to take action to make sure that a blackout does not cripple the province and said he will seek legislation which will make arbitration compulsory for all unions which is in a business governed by the Public Utilities Commission.

"We simply cannot have a power failure through this province," Mr. Gregory stated. "It will mean no lights, loss of much heat, no cooking in a good many homes, no telephones, no telegraphs, no elevators."

"I call upon the minister to announce now what the government is going to do (about the electricians)" said Mr. Gregory.

Labor Minister Lyle Wicks, whose estimates were being debated at the time, said that if "in due course action becomes necessary" the government's policy would be announced at that time.

In the same debate last night

Donald Robinson (SC, Lillooet) might force the government to — "a trade unionist all my life" take action and if it does he — warned that the electricians will support the government.

## B.C. Doctors Say:

# Naturopath Bill Quite Unbelievable

VANCOUVER (CP) — The president of the B.C. Medical Association says the provincial government's new naturopath bill is a "quite unbelievable thing."

Dr. Peter Lehmann said Tuesday the association is "considering making official representation" to the government against the bill.

"They will be officially establishing a double standard in health care for the people of British Columbia," he said of the government, "this will be an abdication by government

of their responsibility which is to maintain a single high standard of health care."

Dr. Gordon Ferguson, executive director of the association, and Dr. Lynn Gunn, registrar of the B.C. College of Physicians and Surgeons, also expressed concern over the bill.

The bill, introduced in the legislature Monday, would give naturopaths control of their practice here, with a professional status similar to that of medical doctors.

## Adjusting School Costs

**A** MENDMENTS to the Public Schools Act introduced in the B.C. Legislature this week by Education Minister Peterson confirm the government's intention of increasing provincial salary grants-in-aid. The increase, which first showed in Premier Bennett's budget, will take into account the three-year rise in actual teaching costs from 1954 to 1957, basing B.C. disbursement on the latter year. While this of itself should be of immediate help to the municipalities, basically responsible for finding the money for their school districts, added provincial help also shows in the capital costs of school construction, contribution to over-formula school budgets and in other ways. In part, therefore the bill is a relieving measure.

Increase in the equalized mill rate for school purposes by one-fifth, from 10 mills to 12 mills, may seem sharp, but the fact is that the latter figure now is closer to reality than its predecessor. It is in the costs above 12 mills that there have been some adjustments in the provincial formula which may prove helpful to individual school districts and their respective ratepayers. Municipal reluctance to offer comment on the amending bill no doubt stems from the fact that in each centre there may be local considerations to weigh in relation to the new cost basis. Over-all, however, the additional provincial help to be given now

should be of benefit to property rate-payers in the province.

The financial changes in the measure will be explained in the House on its second reading, and by that time municipal views should have become crystallized. Obviously the new proposals are an attempt by the government to even the load throughout B.C. areas, with a good deal of fresh provincial contribution provided. The move in fact brings total budgeted costs by the province on education to the highest level on record. What the final result may be is something that will only be learned on application of the new plan under practical test. So little real control has been left to municipalities or district boards now on school matters that the day may come when the provinces will have to assume responsibility for education in its entirety. The whole trend is that way.

In two other directions the amending bill breaks new ground. There should be general approval of steps taken to break up board and council bickering over budgeting on the one hand, and board and teaching staff deadlocks over salaries on the other. Neither mandatory salary agreements nor blacklisting can have an enduring place in the procedure, and both are to be banned under penalty by the law. The public is also likely to approve of the banning of "drones" from school studies where they have shown they do not want to learn, and at least some measure of school authority over students' dress. Both remedies are needed.

## Socred Asks Security Act For Wages

Legislation which would guarantee the payment of wages to employees and contractors in the event of a company going bankrupt was urged yesterday by R. O. Newton (SC, Columbia).

Mr. Newton said that a wages security act, such as was in force in Alberta was "absolutely necessary" and asked that it be brought in this session.

He referred to the closure of a logging and sawmill company at Donald, 14 miles from Golden, where the firm went bankrupt and \$56,000 in wages was owed employees.

Victoria, B.C. 13  
12, 1958

al'

man, Gray,  
or trial on a  
racy in the  
management  
Gregory.

aid the time  
e government  
e competent,  
chief justice  
make a thor-  
of the way  
licences were

were no place  
inquiry into  
been any im-  
granting of  
licences, he  
ings involved  
ry would be

sent minister  
hing further  
now these  
granted he  
become in-  
scandal that  
the head of  
Mr. Gregory

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

Talking Politics

By Peter Bruton

# They Forgot to Rewrite Old Script

## WELL-WORN RECORD:

Maybe it's a good thing there is no Hansard in the provincial legislature.

Yesterday, during debate on Labor Minister Lyle Wick's salary estimates, members on all sides of the House criticized the Workmen's Compensation Board. Some of the statements had an odd ring of familiarity about them.

Reporters checked their files from last session.

There, in black and white, were the almost identical statements and suggestions made about the same Workmen's Compensation Board by the same members in the same debate one year ago.

## TRAVELLING SALES-

MEN: During dull spells in the legislature some members have got into the habit of going to different seats to have little chats with fellow members.

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) looked up while speaking about the Workmen's Compensation Board yesterday and saw that Provincial Secretary Wesley D. Black was sitting in another seat.

"For a moment I thought we had a new minister of highways over there," he commented.

"Flattery will get you no-

where," commented Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

\*\*\*

**WRONG GUESS:** A hurried whisper spread through the legislature press gallery that Social Credit rebel Mel Bryan had "recrossed the floor" to join the ranks of the government he bolted over Attorney-General Robert Bonner's handling of the Sommers case early this session.

But Mr. Bryan, who gets a little bored sitting by himself, had merely moved to an empty Social Credit seat so he could have a conversation with Don Smith (SC, Victoria).

## UNEMPLOYMENT AID:

Rae Eddle (CCF, New Westminster) suggested a means of aiding employment during debate yesterday.

Now was the time to lower the maximum hours of work act from 44 to 40 hours a week and to tighten up overtime restrictions, he said.

Such moves, said Mr. Eddle, would result in more jobs being available for the province's labor force.

\*\*\*

**INCIDENTAL INTELLIGENCE:** Unusual middle names seem to be a cabinet prerogative.

Of the 12 members in the B.C. cabinet five qualify in this regard. There is Provincial Secretary Wesley Drewett Black, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Gillis Williston, Health Minister Eric Charles Fitzgerald Martin, Works Minister William Neelands Chant and Recreation and Conservation Minister Earle Cathers Westwood.

Labor Minister Lyle Wicks doesn't have a middle name.

And there are four Williams—Mr. Chant, Premier William Andrew Cecil Bennett, Attorney-General Robert William Bonner and Mines Minister William Kenneth Kiernan.

## Both Sides At Phone

Provincial government sympathy for a CCF move which would bring the B.C. Telephone Company under control of the Public Utilities Commission was evident yesterday but the motion was defeated for the time being.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, who introduced the motion, said the company's rates are controlled by the federal board of transport commissioners but that the standard of service was uncontrolled.

Before any service could be extended, he said, approval had to be given by Chicago.

Attorney-General Robert Strachan, speaking in the House yesterday, said the motion was defeated for the time being.

Mr. Bonner said the CCF could not expect the government to "mend themselves."

Another Dowding of people in the province, he said, was a monopoly by the company with telephone companies where

## Switch from Provincial

## Up to Council Service

Operating hours of service stations will be controlled completely by municipal councils as soon as the Legislature passes new amendments to the Municipal Act.

Change from provincial to municipal control was contained

## Peace River \$100,000,000

A CCFer accused the government yesterday of making an outright gift of \$100,000,000 a year to Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren.

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said that one horsepower over one year was worth \$25 and that the govern-



FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

# Both Sides Snipe At Phone Monopoly

Provincial government sympathy for a CCF move which would bring the B.C. Telephone Company under control of the Public Utilities Commission was evident yesterday but the motion was defeated for the time being.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan, who introduced the motion, said the company's rates are controlled by the federal board of transport commissioners but that the standard of service was uncontrolled.

Before any service could be extended, he said, approval had to be given by Chicago.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, speaking for the government, said the motion contained errors of fact.

Mr. Bonner said that if the CCF could provide better arguments "the points may commend themselves to the government in due time."

Another CCFer, Gordon Dowding of Burnaby, said the people in the province were paying a heavy tribute to the monopoly because the telephone company was "closely tied" with telephone supply companies where there was room

for "a wonderful field day for profiteering."

"The supply companies can charge high rates to the telephone company and, of course, this cost is passed along to the subscribers," he said.

Victoria Social Credit Donald Smith said he wasn't satisfied with the telephone service in B.C.

## Liberal Motion

# Utility Strike Ban Doomed to Defeat

No action will be taken during this session of the B.C. legislature to ban strikes by utility company employees.

George Gregory (Liberal, Victoria) gave notice of motion Wednesday to amend the Labor

Relations Act to prohibit such strikes and make conciliation board awards binding in such cases. He said his move was necessary because the present electricians' strike could put B.C. "on its knees" within 12 hours of a widespread power blackout.

### DEFEAT CERTAIN

However, House observers pointed out yesterday that the amendment cannot be discussed until members approve Mr. Gregory's other labor amendments. The principal one would give arbitration rights to civil servants, a move the government is almost certain to defeat.

Mr. Gregory had no comment on a statement by Senator Sydney Smith, president of the B.C. Liberal Association, that the party endorses the principle of union security, opposes compulsory arbitration and seeks "to improve and accelerate conciliation procedure."

### GRAVE SITUATION

Senator Smith said he read the Victoria MLA's opposition to party policy as an attempt to "emphasize the grave situation" and to "impel the government to intervene."

Officials of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers said no big blackout will ever occur since the union would give "every consideration" in the event of an emergency.

## Switch from Provincial Control

# Up to Councils to Decide Service Station Hours

Operating hours of service stations will be controlled completely by municipal councils as soon as the Legislature passes new amendments to the Municipal Act.

Change from provincial to municipal control was contained

in a final report yesterday from the municipal affairs committee—a report given after the committee received 250 telegrams protesting sole provincial jurisdiction.

The new system will be: If councils pass no bylaw, all

service stations must close at 6 p.m.

Councils may pass by simple majority a bylaw allowing the stations to stay open until 9 p.m. from May to September and until 7 p.m. from October to April.

Council may pass by two-thirds majority a bylaw allowing garages to stay open as long as they want.

Herbert Bruch (S.C. Esquimalt), committee chairman, explained that it's up to councils to decide whether they will allow 24-hour opening for all service stations or a certain percentage. The councils do not have to wait for applications.

The new and final setup replaces a roster system under which various stations would stay open for 24 hours a day on a weekly rotation system.

A new amendment was added allowing any service station to open in event of emergencies, which officials described as "somebody who runs out of gas late at night."

The report leaves unchanged municipal council's control of all operating hours and possible six-day weeks for corner and other stores.

# Peace River Power \$100,000,000 'Gift'

A CCFer accused the government yesterday of making an outright gift of \$100,000,000 a year to Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren.

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said that one horsepower over one year was worth \$25 and that the govern-

ment had given Wenner-Gren permission to build a 4,000,000-horsepower hydro-electric development on the Peace River. "You're giving Wenner-Gren an outright gift of \$100,000,000 a year alone," he said.

"One thing the people must control is power sites, then you can control the economic groups that come into the province," he added. "We have made grievous mistakes in this province in the past—deals such as the E and N land grant. Here we are in just a little different category giving these interests a stranglehold on our resources."

He urged the government to take a second look at the question.

"We're foolish to let this go into the hands of private enterprise," said Mr. Harding.

Government members denied there was anything given away to the Wenner-Gren interests.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

# Tom Uphill's Past Open for Inspection

## ANOTHER PEYTON PLACE?

Tom Uphill, the widely-respected 83-year-old Independent member for Fernie, has often brought blushes to the faces of members in recalling some of the earthy experiences in his colorful life.

"My life is an open book," he called across the floor yesterday.

"I hope nobody reads it," candidly replied Premier Bennett.

"All my indiscretions were in daylight," quickly answered Mr. Uphill.

BACKFIRE: Saanich Social

Creditor John Tisdalle took a swipe at the opposition yesterday and noted that certain groups were fewer in numbers than they were a year ago.

He obviously meant the opposition and was obviously referring to the fact that in the 1956 provincial election the Social Credit party made big gains at the expense of the opposition.

But the only gain made in actual strength in the past year was against Social Credit — when North Vancouver's Mel Bryan bolted the government over Attorney-General Robert Bonner's

## Talking Politics By Peter Bruton

handling of the Sommers case.

LAZY LADS: The legislative committee probing juvenile delinquency was told yesterday that boys held in the Greater Victoria juvenile detention home at Coldharbour were a lazy lot.

Col. W. S. Dingley, head of the home, said he had tried to make his charges work in the garden but found that some jumped the fence and escaped as soon as they had an opportunity.

"The others," he said, "didn't work. Why if you took

the tools away from them they would fall down."

## OF THINGS TO COME:

The next provincial government will be a CCF government, Randolph Harding, (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) predicted yesterday.

"And I think it's going to be the next election," he said.

"Yes, any time you're ready to discuss the election we're ready," Opposition Leader Robert Strachan called across the floor.

"Meanwhile we're discussing vote 261," snapped Alex Matthews, chairman of the

committee, in steering debate back to Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan's estimates.

## HISTORY WILL REMEMBER:

During debate on establishment of a provincial Hansard yesterday Mr. Harding apparently was appealing to Premier Bennett's vanity when he said that 50 years from now historians would want to know about Social Credit and what its leader was like.

But it failed to sway the premier.

"This period will live long in the annals of this province," he said.

## Votes for Hansard

# Smith Steps Out Of Sacred Line

Victoria Social Creditor Donald Smith yesterday cast his vote against the government as a CCF motion calling for the establishment of a Hansard was defeated by 32 to 14.

The government rejected the move because, in the words of Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, a system of verbatim reporting was "not conducive to good government. What we say

here will not be remembered, but what we do here will."

Mr. Smith had mixed feelings, he said, because Victoria elected him to support the government but he argued that a Hansard was in keeping with the government policy of keeping the people informed.

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said a Hansard would raise the level of debate and added that lack of records of debates hampered historians.

"We learn from history," he said.

"We make it," answered Premier Bennett.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan accused the government of "scrapping the bottom of the barrel" in trying to find an argument against a Hansard and said it proved that many members feared there were a great many things they did or said that they would rather forget.

Referring to an earlier statement by Cyril Sheford (SC, Omineca) that a Hansard would force government members to repeat what they had already said about legislation in closed caucus, Mr. Strachan demanded:

"What sort of democracy is that?"

"You appeal to people to vote for a candidate who can speak behind locked doors. Are the members of this House afraid to put their words on record? As matters stand now they can say: 'Oh, I didn't say that, that's that press again,'" said Mr. Strachan.

John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich) and Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) spoke against a Hansard, as did Dan Campbell (SC, Comox).

## Talking Politics

# No Part

PROTECTED PLANT: An act protecting the trillium, along with the rhododendron and the dogwood, was passed by the legislature yesterday — and all members evidently thought it a good idea because no one spoke on the subject.

Trillium is defined in the new statute this way: "Trillium means the plant Trillium ovatum, commonly known as Western Trillium or Wake-Robin."

Protection by law of the dogwood, rhododendron and trillium is a tribute to the late Mrs. Hugh Mackenzie of Victoria, who for many years fought a battle to have the government do this.

ANSCOMB ASKED: Nearly

## An Off

If the cabinet thinks that a system of Hansard "is not conducive to government," as so stated by Provincial Secretary Black, it suffers badly by comparison with federal affairs. The Hansard record is an important part of the O.C. parliamentary scene, and even if there is an excess of local pride no one can deny that the James Bay legislature is equal to the federal House. What is the necessity enough for the senior parliament is a good example for any legislature.

The proposal for a Hansard was forwarded by the CCF, which of course automatically spelled its deathnell governments do not take kindly to suggestion suggestions. One Sacred motion had the independence to back the and that does him credit. There is no doubt a record of debates — the Hansard — would be of value to even if it might embarrass some members.



SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1958

## Talking Politics

By Peter Bruton

# No Party Lines on Flowers

**PROTECTED PLANT:** An act protecting the trillium, along with the rhododendron and the dogwood, was passed by the legislature yesterday—and all members evidently thought it a good idea because no one spoke on the subject.

Trillium is defined in the new statute this way: "Trillium means the plant Trillium Ovatum, commonly known as Western Ovatum, commonly known as Western Trillium or Wake-Robin."

Protection by law of the dogwood, rhododendron and trillium is a tribute to the late Mrs. Hugh Mackenzie of Victoria, who for many years fought a battle to have the government do this.

★ ★ ★  
**ANSCOMB ASKED:** Nearly

all political observers feel the Progressive Conservatives will do well in the next provincial election—which may be as far off as 1961.

Rumors are already rife that former Tory leader Herbert Anscomb, who went out in the Social Credit upset in 1952, is planning a comeback and that he has told local Tories he is willing to run again.

He is the man who could lead the Tories out of their provincial wilderness.

★ ★ ★

**BONNER BAITED:** Gregory (Lib., Victoria) does not think that his fellow lawyer, Robert Bonner, will reach the record for being the attorney-general for the longest time in B.C.'s history.

The record—something over eight years—is held by Gordon Wismer, and Mr. Bonner has only a couple of years to go before he matches it. But yesterday Mr. Gregory asked Mr. Bonner to make some amendments to an act next session "if he's still with us."

Now perhaps if there was a provincial election Mr. Bonner could be defeated, but few people think that Premier Bennett will fire him.

★ ★ ★

**FRUSTRATION:** Opposition Leader Robert Strachan has had a hard time getting answers from Education Minister Leslie Peterson this session.

He tried again yesterday but committee chairman Alex

Matthews immediately ruled him out of order because the question was irrelevant.

"Surely the minister can't remain silent forever?" Mr. Strachan pleaded.

"That's more than we can expect from you," shot back Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

★ ★ ★

**SWIFT BUSINESS:** The legislature took a brief one minute and 20 seconds yesterday to decide that naturopaths could control their own profession.

Despite violent objections from the medical associations in the province, the bill allowing naturopaths to set up their own control board went through without debate.

## An Official Record

IF the cabinet thinks that a system of Hansard "is not conducive to good government," as so stated by Provincial Secretary Black, it suffers badly by comparison with federal affairs. The Hansard record is an important part of the Ottawa parliamentary scene, and even in an excess of local pride no one can claim that the James Bay legislature is the equal of the federal House. What should be necessary enough for the senior parliament is a good example for any junior legislature.

The proposal for a Hansard was put forward by the CCF, which of course automatically spelled its death since governments do not take kindly to opposition suggestions. One Socred member had the independence to back the idea, and that does him credit. There can be no doubt a record of debates—that is, Hansard—would be of value to everyone. It might embarrass some members to

read afterwards what they actually said without having at their disposal the escape valve of a "misquoted" claim, but on the other hand it might improve the quality of the debates. In any case it would put on record the actual proceedings of the House, just as less exalted organizations keep minutes of their official affairs.

Mr. Black was no more happy in his rebuttal when he said that "it is what we do" and not "what is said" that will be remembered. What is done must first be conveyed by what is said, and what members say in the House is something their constituents are entitled to hear. It is obviously the verbatim aspect that for some reason the government side fears, but if they are worth their salt members should have nothing to fear. However the press will continue to supply House information due to the public, Hansard or no Hansard, but an official record would be a gain all round.

## Forestry, Mine Bills Approved

Important forestry and mining legislation was given approval in principle in the legislature yesterday in one of the quietest sittings of the present session.

Altogether some 30 other bills were given third reading and will become law with the formal assent of Lieutenant-Governor Frank M. Ross when the session prorogues next week.

There was little opposition to the various measures although the CCF members spoke strongly against the forestry legislation which limits new forest management licences to a term of 21 years, at which time they are renewable.

The mining legislation was approved after only 15 minutes of debate. The legislature also gave approval to increases totalling \$90,000,000 in the borrowing powers of three government agencies—The B.C. Power Commission, the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, and the Toll Bridges and Highways Authority.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1958

## Statutes Face Rewrite Job

Legislation authorizing the huge task of rewriting British Columbia's statutes was given first reading in the provincial legislature Thursday.

Officials said it was hoped to have the job completed by the end of the year. The first overhaul of the statutes in 10 years does not mean new laws but legal officials will sit down, start with existing laws, write the subsequent amendments into the originals, and wrap it up with a brand new volume of statutes.

## Hansard in the House

It seems a curious coincidence that year after year the proposal for a written verbatim report of the proceedings of the B.C. legislature (similar to Hansard) is made by whatever party is in opposition and just as surely the resolution is voted down by the party in power.

The reasons given for not having such a report become more ridiculous every year, e.g. those given by the member from Omineca as reported in the Colonist. It is depressing to observe the members of the House thumbing through newspaper clippings to refer back to that which was supposedly said during some previous legislative session. Such a report might even reduce the use of and amount of "tripe."

If the cost of keeping such a record is a serious obstacle I would be pleased to offer the provocative \$28 tax rebate, which I received last year as a property owner, as a down payment.

Here's to more dignified and rational government.

A. MOILLIET.

960 Admirals Road, Victoria, B.C.

'They're Second-

Greg  
to Fin  
Natur

## Wider Powers Granted

Victoria Liberal George Gregory yesterday did everything in his power to prevent approval of a government measure giving naturopaths full control over their own profession.

But his efforts were in vain as a heavy government majority, as well as some members from the CCF opposition, gave third reading to a bill which gives naturopaths still wider powers than the original legislation introduced by Health Minister Eric Martin this session.

### PRESCRIBE DRUGS

Amendments approved yesterday will permit naturopaths to prescribe drugs as well as take blood samples for anything they see fit.

The earlier legislation had described naturopathy as the treatment by "drugless" therapeutics but yesterday the word "drugless" was deleted. It was also decided to remove the restriction which would allow them to take blood samples only for haemoglobin estimation.

### SECOND-CLASS

The amendments were introduced by Tom Bate (S.C. Vancouver Point Grey) and were approved by the House.

Mr. Gregory said he was very much opposed to the whole bill and the amendments and that the best that could be said for naturopathic physicians was that they were "second-class physicians."



'They're Second-Class Physicians'

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958

# Gregory Battles to Finish But Naturopath Bill

## Passes

### Wider Powers Granted

Victoria Liberal George Gregory yesterday did everything in his power to prevent approval of a government measure giving naturopaths full control over their own profession.

But his efforts were in vain as a heavy government majority, as well as some members from the CCF opposition, gave third reading to a bill which gives naturopaths still wider powers than the original legislation introduced by Health Minister Eric Martin this session.

#### PRESCRIBE DRUGS

Amendments approved yesterday will permit naturopaths to prescribe drugs as well as take blood samples for anything they see fit.

The earlier legislation had described naturopathy as the treatment by "drugless" therapeutics but yesterday the word "drugless" was deleted. It was also decided to remove the restriction which would allow them to take blood samples only for haemoglobin estimation.

#### SECOND-CLASS

The amendments were introduced by Tom Bate (SC, Vancouver Point Grey) and were approved by the House.

Mr. Gregory said he was very much opposed to the whole bill and the amendments and that the best that could be said for naturopathic physicians was that they were "second-class physicians."

#### LET LOOSE ON PUBLIC

He charged that doctors who ran the much-criticized Hoxsey cancer clinics in the U.S. were naturopathic physicians although other members disputed this. And he warned the government to be careful before allowing naturopaths to be "let loose" on the public of B.C.

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) who supported Mr. Gregory, said the government might just as well "license witch doctors and medicine men."

#### DON'T MAKE SENSE

"If it wasn't for the standards placed on the medical profession this province would be full of such things," he said.

"You don't know what you're talking about," shouted Mr. Bate.

Mr. Gregory proposed a number of amendments which he admitted did not make "much sense—but then neither does the bill."

In each case he was ruled out of order by chairman Alex Matthews.

#### ENCROACHED UPON

Health Minister Eric Martin who was responsible for the bill, said that naturopaths had been encroached upon legally by statutes until today they were hardly able to practise at all.

"That's a good thing," called Mr. Gregory.

"Are you trying to knock these people out of existence?" cried Mr. Martin.

Mr. Gregory argued that the government was giving naturopaths the right to give drugs to patients without first having to study anything about pharmacology.

### Sport Events On Sunday Step Closer

Sunday sport and other amendments to the Vancouver charter received final reading without discussion in the legislature yesterday.

However, the Sunday sport issue must still be tested before the B.C. Court of Appeal, according to a recent government decision. The amendment would allow professional and other sports events, except horse racing, between 1.30 and 6 p.m. Sundays.

#### Up to Municipalities

## Control of Hours Approved by House

New regulations giving municipal councils full control of store and service station operating hours were given second reading, approval in principle, in the legislature yesterday.

But before the vote, members of the two largest parties predicted they would not work completely.

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) said council control of hours will invite "a mad competition" between adjacent municipalities "to get the business."

#### BACK NEXT YEAR

He urged that the final decision in such a case be left up to the cabinet and predicted municipalities "will be back next year for something like that."

Bert Price (SC, Vancouver

Burrard) said the new scheme would not work because of "those people in the business world who deserve the name of scab" and of municipal councillors who "are very selfish of their own power, listen to pressure groups and sell out surrounding municipalities."

#### SET UP ZONES

The only way to get a "semblance of equality," said Mr. Price, would be to divide the province into zones—apparently provincial control of hours in cities but municipal control outside cities.

Nothing will satisfy everyone, was Premier W. A. C. Bennett's reply.

"There is no easy, permanent solution, only trial and error," he said. "Local governments know the people best."

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1958

## Statutes Face Rewrite Job

Legislation authorizing the huge task of rewriting British Columbia's statutes was given first reading in the provincial legislature Thursday.

Officials said it was hoped to have the job completed by the end of the year. The first overhaul of the statutes in 10 years does not mean new laws but legal officials will sit down, start with existing laws, write the subsequent amendments into the originals, and wrap it up with a brand new volume of statutes.

## Hansard in the House

It seems a curious coincidence that year after year the proposal for a written verbatim report of the proceedings of the B.C. legislature (similar to Hansard) is made by whatever party is in opposition and just as surely the resolution is voted down by the party in power.

The reasons given for not having such a report become more ridiculous every year, e.g. those given by the member from Omineca as reported in the Colonist. It is depressing to observe the members of the House thumbing through newspaper clippings to refer back to that which was supposedly said during some previous legislative session. Such a report might even reduce the use of and amount of "tripe."

If the cost of keeping such a record is a serious obstacle I would be pleased to offer the provocative \$28 tax rebate, which I received last year as a property owner, as a down payment.

Here's to more dignified and rational government.

A. MOILLIET.

960 Admirals Road, Victoria, B.C.

'They're Second-

Greg  
to Fin  
Natur

## Wider Powers Granted

Victoria Liberal George Gregory yesterday did everything in his power to prevent approval of a government measure giving naturopaths full control over their own profession.

But his efforts were in vain as a heavy government majority, as well as some members from the CCF opposition, gave third reading to a bill which gives naturopaths still wider powers than the original legislation introduced by Health Minister Eric Martin this session.

### PRESCRIBE DRUGS

Amendments approved yesterday will permit naturopaths to prescribe drugs as well as take blood samples for anything they see fit.

The earlier legislation had described naturopathy as the treatment by "drugless" therapeutics but yesterday the word "drugless" was deleted. It was also decided to remove the restriction which would allow them to take blood samples only for haemoglobin estimation.

### SECOND-CLASS

The amendments were introduced by Tom Bate (SC, Vancouver Point Grey) and were approved by the House.

Mr. Gregory said he was very much opposed to the whole bill and the amendments and that the best that could be said for naturopathic physicians was that they were "second-class physicians."



'They're Second-Class Physicians'

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958

# Gregory Battles to Finish But Naturopath Bill

## Passes

### Wider Powers Granted

Victoria Liberal George Gregory yesterday did everything in his power to prevent approval of a government measure giving naturopaths full control over their own profession.

But his efforts were in vain as a heavy government majority, as well as some members from the CCF opposition, gave third reading to a bill which gives naturopaths still wider powers than the original legislation introduced by Health Minister Eric Martin this session.

#### **PRESCRIBE DRUGS**

Amendments approved yesterday will permit naturopaths to prescribe drugs as well as take blood samples for anything they see fit.

The earlier legislation had described naturopathy as the treatment by "drugless" therapeutics but yesterday the word "drugless" was deleted. It was also decided to remove the restriction which would allow them to take blood samples only for haemoglobin estimation.

#### **SECOND-CLASS**

The amendments were introduced by Tom Bate (SC, Vancouver Point Grey) and were approved by the House.

Mr. Gregory said he was very much opposed to the whole bill and the amendments and that the best that could be said for naturopathic physicians was that they were "second-class physicians."

#### **LET LOOSE ON PUBLIC**

He charged that doctors who ran the much-criticized Hoxsey cancer clinics in the U.S. were naturopathic physicians although other members disputed this. And he warned the government to be careful before allowing naturopaths to be "let loose" on the public of B.C.

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) who supported Mr. Gregory, said the government might just as well "license witch doctors and medicine men."

#### **DON'T MAKE SENSE**

"If it wasn't for the standards placed on the medical profession this province would be full of such things," he said.

"You don't know what you're talking about," shouted Mr. Bate.

Mr. Gregory proposed a number of amendments which he admitted did not make "much sense—but then neither does the bill."

In each case he was ruled out of order by chairman Alex Matthew.

#### **ENCROACHED UPON**

Health Minister Eric Martin who was responsible for the bill, said that naturopaths had been encroached upon legally by statutes until today they were hardly able to practise at all.

"That's a good thing," called Mr. Gregory.

"Are you trying to knock these people out of existence?" cried Mr. Martin.

Mr. Gregory argued that the government was giving naturopaths the right to give drugs to patients without first having to study anything about pharmacology.

### Sport Events On Sunday Step Closer

Sunday sport and other amendments to the Vancouver charter received final reading without discussion in the legislature yesterday.

However, the Sunday sport issue must still be tested before the B.C. Court of Appeal, according to a recent government decision. The amendment would allow professional and other sports events, except horse racing, between 1.30 and 6 p.m. Sundays.

#### **Up to Municipalities**

## Control of Hours Approved by House

New regulations giving municipal councils full control of store and service station operating hours were given second reading, approval in principle, in the legislature yesterday.

But before the vote, members of the two largest parties predicted they would not work completely.

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) said council control of hours will invite "a mad competition" between adjacent municipalities "to get the business."

#### **BACK NEXT YEAR**

He urged that the final decision in such a case be left up to the cabinet and predicted municipalities "will be back next year for something like that."

Bert Price (SC, Vancouver

Burrard) said the new scheme would not work because of "those people in the business world who deserve the name of scab" and of municipal councilors who "are very selfish of their own power, listen to pressure groups and sell out surrounding municipalities."

#### **SET UP ZONES**

The only way to get a "semblance of equality," said Mr. Price, would be to divide the province into zones—apparently provincial control of hours in cities but municipal control outside cities.

Nothing will satisfy everyone, was Premier W. A. C. Bennett's reply.

"There is no easy, permanent solution, only trial and error," he said. "Local governments know the people best."

## Britannia Probe Stalled

# Mine Owners 'Thumb Noses'

The legislative committee investigating the closure of Britannia Copper Mine said yesterday it appeared to be "licked" with respect to making the company take action.

The mine, owned by the Howe Sound Company of Salt Lake City, Utah, closed on Feb. 28. About 800 men were thrown out of work.

The owners were accused of "thumbing their noses" at the committee.

### DUCKED OUT

"They have ducked out to Salt Lake City," said Don Robinson (SC-Lillooet). The mine is in his riding.

The committee held a 90-minute meeting yesterday but appeared no closer to a solution than when the hearings started two weeks ago.

Chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard) said it appeared the committee was "licked" but disagreed with a recommendation the government take over operation of the mine.

### UNION WILLING

Harvey Murphy, international vice-president of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union, said the union was willing to operate the mine "for the government or for anybody else."

Ken Smith, international union representative, said the closure of the mine after the payment of \$20,000 in federal

provincial subsidy, was "nothing short of criminal."

"I submit they are guilty of fraud," he said. "For all we know it's in somebody's pocket."

## Talking Politics

# Man Proposes, Fire Disposes

By PETER BRUTON

Government documents may not be destroyed for 10 years unless authorization of the standing committees on public accounts is first given. So yesterday the committee authorized the destruction of certain documents which are no longer needed.

Provincial archivist Willard Ireland asked for permission to destroy certain papers from Government House. This was a little peculiar, he admitted, because in actual fact the documents in question were destroyed by the disastrous fire which swept Government House almost a year ago.

Permission for the destruction was granted.

★ ★ ★

**REVISED THINKING:** The provincial government really proved it's a "second look" government yesterday.

Various cabinet ministers brought in about six amendments to the government legislation already before the House. None of the amendments called for any spectacular change but the government did take a ribbing from the opposition.



WILLARD IRELAND  
... little peculiar

★ ★ ★

**ST. PATRICK SPIRIT:** When opposition members proposed a few minor amendments to legislation yesterday they were more than a little amazed when the government accepted some of their ideas.

"There's a spirit of goodwill today," said Premier Bennett.

"That's an Irish reason if ever I heard one," replied Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

A few minutes later Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) got to his feet to move another amendment.

"Don't play your luck too far," warned the Premier.

★ ★ ★

**MAKING BOOK:** An amendment to the "Assignment of Book Accounts Act" was given third reading yesterday. It deals with procedure of filing books of companies with the registrar of companies.

But it did lead to Mr. Strachan asking this question: "Has this got anything to do with horse racing?"

★ ★ ★

**WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM:** George Gregory (Lib., Victoria) told the House yesterday that the government should do something about coloring gasoline red, if the tax has been paid, and blue if there is no tax required.

"There's a brand called Blue Chevron but because it's colored for tax purposes it comes out a terrible red color," he explained. "Can't we have this blue stuff that makes our cars go so much better..."

"No commercials on the floor of the House," said Premier Bennett.

★ ★ ★

**MUNICIPAL MATTERS:** Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black yesterday told members some of the problems he has been faced with over amendments to the highly controversial Municipal Act brought in last session.

"We have the five-day week people come to us," he said, "the five-and-a-half-day week people, the six-day week people and even the clear blue sky people."

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) came out with this gem: Shops regulations provisions in the new amendments, he said, will allow municipal councils "within certain limits to go all the way."

And Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) said the regulations will lead to "a battle of Kilkenny cats." The government was trying to please everybody, said Mr. Nimsick. It's "trying to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958

# Lavish Power

By PETER

## UNITED WE STAND:

against the rest of the legisla

George Gregory of Victoria g and P. A. Gibbs of Oak Bay ta registered the two dissenting a votes on a bill which gives the

# Doctors C Naturopath

Victoria doctors last night criticized new provincial legislation broadening the scope of naturopaths and allowing them to govern themselves.

"We feel it is a backward step," said Dr. G. F. Homer, president of the Victoria branch of the Canadian Medical Association.

"We feel that only fully qualified people should practice medicine. I don't see any reason for naturopaths at all."

Government officials yesterday hastened to explain that the new Naturopathy Act does not

# Teache

**BRITISH Columbia Teachers'** tion and the various subsidia cations are doing neither themse the reputation of the teaching p any good by opposing legislation to outlaw the blacklisting of sch tricts where wage scales fall shor teachers' demands. Because of t spread application of blacklists t the provincial government was the position of having to do so to safeguard the welfare of th and the efficient operation of the That obligation is paramount, course adopted by the Province wa sitated to a very large exten actions of the teachers' union.

The federation has represen amending bill as a trespass on th of free speech, for which view the be some support if the proposed r were directed solely against the t They are not. This outlawing o listing is merely a part of new m designed to bring about fair and l settlement of disagreements teachers and school boards, and parable obligation is placed on the If the bill passes unchanged putes will have to be submitted ciliation procedure similar to the

## Lengthy Session To End This Week

The present sitting of the provincial legislature, one of the longest in years, is expected to end this week with prorogation either on Thursday or Friday.

The last legislation was introduced yesterday morning and all that remains to be done is to clean up a few tag ends.



# Lavish Liberal Lung Power Brings on Bingo Bungle

By PETER BRUTON

**UNITED WE STAND:** It was the two Liberals against the rest of the legislature yesterday.

George Gregory of Victoria and P. A. Gibbs of Oak Bay registered the two dissenting votes on a bill which gives the

government power to collect tax on bingo games. The Liberals said the tax was aimed at charity bingo and on that ground they disapproved.

A division saw the House approve by 46 to two.

## Talking Politics

"The division came about in a strange way," Mr. Gregory said later. "On the vote I called 'No' so loudly that the Speaker (Hugh Shantz) declared the mo-

tion for third reading was lost. In the utter consternation that followed, Mr. Speaker asked the premier if he would like a division. Whereupon strength of

numbers overcame the strength of lungpower."

## Doctors Criticize Naturopath Bill

Victoria doctors last night criticized new provincial legislation broadening the scope of naturopaths and allowing them to govern themselves.

"We feel it is a backward step," said Dr. G. F. Homer, president of the Victoria branch of the Canadian Medical Association.

"We feel that only fully qualified people should practice medicine. I don't see any reason for naturopaths at all."

Government officials yesterday hastened to explain that the new Naturopathy Act does not

allow naturopaths to actually prescribe drugs as was earlier indicated. But under certain circumstances they may administer drugs.

The ruling is based on a recent court decision that anything given to a person who is ill with a view to curing him, may be classed as a drug, they said.

**THE LAST STRAW:** The government's decision to get tougher than ever in an effort to prevent the B.C. Teachers' Federation from blacklisting school boards apparently resulted from advertisements in English newspapers.

The education department has an official in the United Kingdom today attempting to recruit much-needed teachers for B.C. in the next school year. But advertisements have appeared in English papers warning teachers there of the blacklisting situation here.

Observers believe this is the straw that broke the camel's back.

**DOUBLE ENTENDE:** Tony Gargrave (CCF, Mackenzie) said he had seen a headline in a Vancouver newspaper which read: "Saskatchewan Bull Wins Championship."

"That's possible," called Donald Smith (SC, Victoria).

## Teachers Out of Line

**BRITISH** Columbia Teachers' Federation and the various subsidiary associations are doing neither themselves nor the reputation of the teaching profession any good by opposing legislation designed to outlaw the blacklisting of school districts where wage scales fall short of the teachers' demands. Because of the widespread application of blacklists this year the provincial government was put into the position of having to do something to safeguard the welfare of the public and the efficient operation of the schools. That obligation is paramount, and the course adopted by the Province was necessitated to a very large extent by the actions of the teachers' union.

The federation has represented the amending bill as a trespass on the rights of free speech, for which view there might be some support if the proposed new laws were directed solely against the teachers. They are not. This outlawing of blacklisting is merely a part of new machinery designed to bring about fair and impartial settlement of disagreements between teachers and school boards, and a comparable obligation is placed on the boards.

If the bill passes unchanged all disputes will have to be submitted to conciliation procedure similar to that set up

for the hearing of industrial disputes; but where conciliation fails to produce agreement the issue will go to arbitration, the findings of which will be binding on boards and teachers alike. Since it is illegal for teachers to strike and also imperative that the classrooms should be fully staffed, there must be a final tribunal with the authority to say how disputes shall be settled, and arbitration within the full meaning of the word supplies the only visible solution.

Provided the boards and the teachers' representatives enter conciliation and if necessary arbitration in the right spirit there should be no need for blacklisting or any curtailment of free speech. Nor under the new legislation will boards be able in future to "fix" salary scales over the objections of the teachers and without reference to an independent tribunal.

What transpired in many parts of the province this year made it plain that the existing machinery for the settlement of salary disputes was incomplete. The system of arbitration could not work satisfactorily if the teachers' union were left in a position to blacklist whole districts in defiance of the rulings. In such circumstances arbitration would be a waste of time and the final outcome as inconclusive as those of this year's disputes.

**Peterson Warns Teachers:**

Wed., March 19, 1958

# GIVE UP BLACKLISTING OR LOSE CLOSED SHOP

## Could Break BCTF

Provincial government will withdraw its controversial legislation preventing the blacklisting of school districts by teachers but at the same time will deny the right of the B.C. Teachers' Federation to have a closed shop unless assurance is given that such "unfortunate and deplorable tactics" will not be used again.

Education Minister Leslie Pearson made the announcement—which could break the teachers' federation—during second reading of the new Public Schools Act yesterday afternoon.

### DON'T APPLY

A total of 26 of the 102 school districts in B.C. have been blacklisted by the teachers after individual school boards refused to negotiate new salary scales.

By blacklisting the districts, the teachers' federation has in effect told its members not to apply for teaching jobs in the districts.

### PINKLISTING

School boards in turn have turned to "pinklisting"—a move which would prevent teachers from applying to other districts for jobs.

Yesterday, however, it was the teachers who came under fire.

Under existing legislation every teacher must become a member of the federation in order to teach in public schools and this provision had been included in the new act now before the legislature.

### BECOMES NECESSARY

"However, if the teachers' federation is going to utilize this compulsory membership to deprive school districts of teachers by declaring certain districts in dispute, commonly known as blacklisting, it becomes necessary for the government to discourage this procedure," said Mr. Peterson.

The present legislation, he said, contained provisions which would make it an offence to dissuade a teacher from accepting employment or to dissuade a board from offering employment to a teacher.

### SEVERAL GROUNDS

"Objection has been taken to this provision on several grounds, probably the most important of which is that it is an encroachment on the freedom of speech," said the minister. "It is extremely difficult to prevent tactics commonly known as blacklisting, difficult to prevent by enforceable legislation and I can agree with those who have taken this objection that the provisions of the present section is broad enough and so all-embracing as to be open to abuse."

"Consequently, this provision will be deleted from the bill when it is considered by a committee of the whole house," said Mr. Peterson.

He had a moral responsibility, he said, to see that schools were open and remained open and to see that properly qualified teachers are available to instruct in the schools.

## Classrooms Could Shut Over Issue

A last-minute move to restore peace between teachers and trustees throughout B.C. was made late last night by Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

Mr. Peterson proposed that representatives of the embattled B.C. Teachers' Federation and the B.C. School Trustees' Association meet under his auspices "in an effort to resolve the basic conflict."

The proposal was immediately accepted by BCTF officials.

Trustee association reaction to the peace parley proposal was not immediately known.

### PUBLIC IGNORANT

The impasse between teachers and trustees threatens education facilities in this district.

"The public generally do not realize that the Greater Victoria school board could be forced to close some classrooms in September if the impasse continues," Kenneth Leeming, chairman of the board's finance committee said last night.

The possibility of closed classrooms arose when the BCTF advised members not to accept jobs in Victoria or other B.C. areas where it held wages to be still in dispute.

### BROKE OFF

In Victoria negotiations broke off with representatives of some 700 teachers asking for a 13 per cent wage increase. The board later set an increase of approximately 6% per cent when teachers failed to seek arbitration under existing school act provisions.

Since then the teachers have battled proposed changes in the act which would take away their right to "blacklist" dispute districts and succeeded in having the proposed amendment dropped.

Last night they were faced instead with a government plan to withhold proclamation of school act provisions which provide that teachers must belong to the BCTF before taking jobs in the province.

Withholding the proclamation would have the effect of weakening the blacklist by giving teachers the right to work without belonging to the BCTF.

### SHARPLY RAPPED

Threat to delay the "closed shop" proclamation until the federation gives a commitment to abandon the practice of declaring certain school districts closed, was criticized sharply last night by BCTF president Harold Parrott of Victoria and federation executive assistant Allan Spragge.

"He is asking the officers of the federation to give a commitment which they have no power to give," they said. "The government must wake up to the fact that teachers throughout the province are angry."

"If their officers at this point give way to the minister's pressure and made the commitment he asks there is no doubt whatever the teachers would repudiate it."

They said government action in withholding the proclamation "would tighten teacher ranks and stiffen their attitude as nothing else could do."

"Teachers do not want to take action which would close any school in any district, nevertheless they must defend their right to negotiate their salary contracts," the federation officers stated.

### PASS BALL

Trustees' association president Lorne Aggett said earlier in a prepared statement the association had been promised by Premier Bennett "there would be teachers in B.C. schools in September."

"If blacklisting continues and interferes with the staffing of schools we'll pass the ball to the premier in the light of this assurance," he stated. "We'll be forced to do so."

Greater Victoria board spokesman Kenneth Leeming described the proposed government action "a most welcome solution to the black listing of school boards by the teachers' association."

FIVE s  
Publ  
lature v  
at B.C.  
ority ov  
have he  
at the c  
up who  
Another  
no long  
the sch  
charged  
tightens  
student  
obedienc  
Pare  
Where  
school  
be subj  
tion, th  
liable."  
visions  
with so



## Clearing the Slate

FIVE sections in the amendments to the Public Schools Act before the Legislature will give principals and teachers at B.C. public schools more direct authority over wayward students than they have held before. One is aimed directly at the occasional drones of 15 years and up who simply do not wish to learn. Another deals with hooligans who are no longer enrolled but return to barrack the schools from which they were discharged or left. The amending bill also tightens up on the general conduct of student bodies as to dress, discipline, obedience and "diligence" in their studies.

Parents also come into the picture. Where wilful damage has been done to school property by adolescents, now to be subject to a fine of \$50 upon conviction, their parents will be held "jointly liable." Adults are also covered in provisions against deliberate interference with school work by any means. The

relevant sections are those numbered 124 to 127 in Part VI of the amending measure, which in a few days time may become standard school law in B.C. Some of the authority cited is being retained from the existing statute, but new remedies for drones and trouble makers are being written in. Any 15-year-old youth dismissed for failure to apply himself to his studies can be readmitted for a further chance, within the discretion of the school district concerned.

Stripped of technicalities, this added measure of disciplinary authority is what schools in almost every province in Canada have long been seeking—power to deal with the lazy and with the ill-natured few who set out to wreak personal vengeance on the school system. For the drones there probably is no cure but ejection. For the hooligans there will now be stiff penalties, and a direct measure of parental responsibility as well. The time for this has been long overdue.

### SHARPLY RAPPED

Threat to delay the "closed shop" proclamation until the federation gives a commitment to abandon the practice of declaring certain school districts closed, was criticized sharply last night by BCTF president Harold Parrott of Victoria and federation executive assistant Allan Spragge.

"He is asking the officers of the federation to give a commitment which they have no power to give," they said. "The government must wake up to the fact that teachers throughout the province are angry."

"If their officers at this point give way to the minister's pressure and made the commitment he asks there is no doubt whatever the teachers would repudiate it."

They said government action in withholding the proclamation "would tighten teacher ranks and stiffen their attitude as nothing else could do."

"Teachers do not want to take action which would close any school in any district, nevertheless they must defend their right to negotiate their salary contracts," the federation officers stated.

### PASS BALL

Trustees' association president Lorne Aggett said earlier in a prepared statement the association had been promised by Premier Bennett "there would be teachers in B.C. schools in September."

"If blacklisting continues and interferes with the staffing of schools we'll pass the ball to the premier in the light of this assurance," he stated. "We'll be forced to do so."

Greater Victoria board spokesman Kenneth Leeming described the proposed government action "a most welcome solution to the black listing of school boards by the teachers' association."

NG

OP

ms

ut

ue

peace between  
ut B.C. was  
tion Minister

FF  
a negotiations broke  
representatives of  
teachers asking for a  
wage increase. The  
set an increase of  
ely 6% per cent  
hers failed to seek  
under existing  
provisions.

en the teachers have  
posed changes in the  
would take away  
to "blacklist" dis-  
cts and succeeded in  
e proposed amend-  
ed.

ht they were fac-  
h a government plan  
id proclamation of  
provisions which re-  
teachers must belong  
F before taking jobs  
vince.

ling the proclamation  
ve the effect of  
the blacklist by  
chers the right to  
out belonging to the

## Talking Politics

# Gaglardi Got Expenses For 180 Days of Travel

By PETER BRUTON

Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi collected travelling expenses for 180 days during the fiscal year ended March 31, 1957.

He was paid \$15 a day. The information was supplied when Premier Bennett, as finance minister, answered a question on it by George Gregory (L, Victoria).

### HERE TODAY AND GONE TOMORROW

Agriculture Minister Newton P. Steacy must have had a hurried change of mind overnight Tuesday.

During Tuesday afternoon's sitting he introduced a bill amending the Stock Brands Act. Yesterday he asked for, and received, leave of the legislature to withdraw the bill.

**LAST LAUGH:** With the session in its dying stages, a Social Credit backbencher sent a tin marked "Peanut Brittle" over to CCFer Leo Nimsick of Cranbrook yesterday afternoon.

Unknown to Mr. Nimsick, the tin was so rigged that if the top was removed a jack-in-the-box would fly out.

Perhaps Mr. Nimsick is just naturally cautious or maybe he was not hungry at the time. Anyway, he left it on his desk without opening it.

**MESSAGE TO RIPLEY:** With one more day to go, members of the legislative press gallery are keeping their fingers crossed in the hope they'll set a record today.

So far this year no one has interrupted legislative proceedings by falling and crashing down the steep steps to the press gallery. It's the first time in reporters' memories that this hasn't happened at least once in a session.

## Dental Change Nearer

The bill allowing dental technicians to deal directly with the public in B.C. passed second reading by a voice vote in the legislature yesterday.

Meanwhile, government officials stressed that it will be some time before the bill goes into effect. Lengthy regulations governing licensing procedure for the technicians must be drawn up.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the bill has been brought in "solely to further safeguard the health of the people of this province."

**THE AYES HAVE IT:** Eagle-eyed CCFers found a spelling mistake in one of the acts given third reading. Instead of automobile it was twice spelled "automobile."

"You'd better amend it," suggested Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby).

But committee chairman Alex Matthew had a better idea.

"Shall typographical errors pass?" he asked, and the House agreed.

### WE ARE NOT AMUSED

With the passage of the 345 amendments to the Municipal Act brought down last session, George Gregory couldn't resist taking a dig at Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black.

"The minister has earned himself a leather medal," said Mr. Gregory. The year-old act,

he said, had 889 sections and this year required 345 amendments.

"I've come to expect that type of remark," snorted Mr. Black.

Earlier, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan had told the House that the government was making improvements but at the rate it was going the legislature would probably have to pass another 100 amendments to the Municipal Act this session.

# 15 Licence Bids Handled by Shultz

A forestry consultant firm now awaiting trial on a charge of bribery conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences handled a total of 15 forest management licence applications between 1952 and 1957, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said yesterday.

Of the 15 applications only three were successful, he said in reply to questions by George Gregory (L, Victoria).

They were the licences awarded Evans Products Ltd., Tahsis Company Ltd. and B.C. Forest Products Ltd.

The firm and its head, C. D. Shultz, have been committed for trial on charges of conspiring to obtain licences by bribing former minister of lands and forests Robert E. Sommers, B.C. Forest Products and Mr. Sommers have also been committed for trial.

Of the other licence applications handled by the Shultz organization two applications were reserved by the forest service, seven were advertised, and three were rejected.

## B.C. Threat Protested

Threat by Education Minister Leslie Peterson to deny the right of the B.C. Teachers' Federation to have a closed shop, will be protested by the Victoria Labor Council.

## Liquor Act

# Tipplers To Find It Rough

Amendments to the liquor control board act are going to make it harder on the people who keep ending up in court, bleary-eyed after tipping too much.

The amendments provide for elimination of the \$20 minimum fine for drunkenness and the institution of a \$50 maximum instead.

The reason is that the regulars were getting the minimum all the time and the first offenders were getting it too.

The maximum will give magistrates a little more leeway in fining.

The amendments also state the courts can order seizure of cars or boats from which liquor is sold.

## Fireworks Expected

Eight-hundred teachers, representing 10,000 in B.C., meet in Vancouver April 7 and are expected to provide fireworks against the provincial government no-closed-shop or no-blacklisting ultimatum.

## New Board To Probe Delinquency

A special board to make a one year investigation of B.C.'s juvenile delinquency problem will be established by the government soon, following approval of a bill in the legislature early today. It is expected the 16-member social welfare committee of the legislature will do the job.

Another bill approved establishment of a second committee to make a year-long study of the government's payments to doctors through the social assistance medical service.

## Fireworks Aplenty

# Session

By PETER BRUTON

Lieutenant-Governor Frank Prorogue the second session of the legislature today, ending an eight-day session which provided some of the most and some of the dullest legislative years.

In many ways it could be called the opposition's year.

Hard-hitting criticism over such matters as a reduction of staff at provincial institutions, the proposed closure of New Haven hospital, and the much-attacked Mineral Act made law a year ago, forced cabinet members to back down and the government to live up to its slogan of being a "second look" administration.

### No More Bumbling

The opposition, apparently recovered from the shock of the staggering Social Credit victory in the 1956 provincial election, managed to shrug off the mantle of inept bumbling which characterized its actions a year ago.

Coupled with this—and probably a fact which made the CCF and Liberals look even better than they really were—came the first signs of apparent weakness in Social Credit's armor.

If a highlight of the session must be singled out it has to be the bolting of government ranks by North Vancouver's Mel Bryan over the way the government, and Attorney-General Robert Bonner in particular, handled the bribery allegations against former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers.

The 30-month-old case is still before the courts.

### Bryan Quits Party

Mr. Bryan, in a sensational attack during the Throne Speech debate Jan. 29, charged that Mr. Bonner had failed in his duties in not prosecuting Mr. Sommers earlier and demanded that the attorney-general resign.

Five days later, after the government ignored the demand, Mr. Bryan announced to the House he could no longer sit with the Social Credit administration and walked across the floor to become an Independent M.L.A. It was an odd repeat of history. Premier Bennett himself had made the same choice in 1951 when he left the ranks of the Coalition.

The North Vancouver member vaguely hinted there were other government members who felt the same as he did but no others followed suit.

There were, however, plenty of indications that all was not well in Social Credit ranks. Outspoken Cyril Shelford of Omineca lashed out at Attorney-General Bonner. Premier Bennett and Agriculture Minister Newton Steacy a few days later over various government policies.



Fireworks Aplenty ...

... But Mostly It Was Dull

# Session Proves Sensational Bore

By PETER BRUTON

Lieutenant-Governor Frank M. Ross will prorogue the second session of B.C.'s 25th legislature today, ending an eight-week-old sitting which provided some of the most sensational and some of the duller legislative events in recent years.

In many ways it could be called the opposition's year.

Hard-hitting criticism over such matters as a reduction of staff at provincial institutions, the proposed closure of New Haven hospital, and the much-attacked Mineral Act made law a year ago, forced cabinet members to back down and the government to live up to its slogan of being a "second look" administration.

## No More Bumbling

The opposition, apparently recovered from the shock of the staggering Social Credit victory in the 1956 provincial election, managed to shrug off the mantle of inept bumbling which characterized its actions a year ago.

Coupled with this—and probably a fact which made the CCF and Liberals look even better than they really were—came the first signs of apparent weakness in Social Credit's armor.

If a highlight of the session must be singled out it has to be the bolting of government ranks by North Vancouver's Mel Bryan over the way the government, and Attorney-General Robert Bonner in particular, handled the bribery allegations against former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers.

The 30-month-old case is still before the courts.

## Bryan Quits Party

Mr. Bryan, in a sensational attack during the Throne Speech debate Jan. 29, charged that Mr. Bonner had failed in his duties in not prosecuting Mr. Sommers earlier and demanded that the attorney-general resign.

Five days later, after the government ignored the demand, Mr. Bryan announced to the House he could no longer sit with the Social Credit administration and walked across the floor to become an Independent M.L.A. It was an odd repeat of history. Premier Bennett himself had made the same choice in 1951 when he left the ranks of the Coalition.

The North Vancouver member vaguely hinted there were other government members who felt the same as he did but no others followed suit.

There were, however, plenty of indications that all was not well in Social Credit ranks. Outspoken Cyril Shelford of Omineca lashed out at Attorney-General Bonner, Premier Bennett and Agriculture Minister Newton Steacy a few days later over various government policies.

## Jealousy Charged

"You have a long way to go to gain back the faith you have lost in this short time in office," he told Mr. Steacy. The latter promptly accused the backbencher of being "jealous" because he didn't get the agriculture cabinet post.

Later in the session, Mr. Shelford again figured in a minor revolt against the government hierarchy when he, Irvine Corbett of Yale, and Fred Sharp of Vancouver East all left the legislature rather than vote on a non-confidence motion on Mr. Bonner's handling of the Sommers case.

They said they could not agree with Mr. Bonner's actions but at the same time felt he could not properly defend himself at this point.

## Ignored by Premier

But if the signs of rebellion were evident to observers they were studiously ignored by Premier Bennett who said it was just another indication that Social Credit never denied free speech to anyone. He did, however, lash out at newspapers for playing up minor happenings such as this.

The session got off to an early bang when Opposition Leader Robert Strachan smashed tradition by moving on the first sitting day that immediate consideration be given the unemployment crisis facing B.C. and Canada.

The government answered by turning the matter of "seasonal" unemployment over to a legislative committee which heard briefs from all interested groups.

On Feb. 7 Premier Bennett brought down his latest budget—a big \$284,000,000 vote for government expenditure which fell short by a few million of last year's provincial budget.

A slight slump was possible, the premier reported, but another boom will follow and B.C.'s prospects were never better. High points in the budget

## Opposition Exploited Sacred Weaknesses

were increased social assistance and mothers' allowances, government guaranteed loans for municipalities for sewage and water projects, removal of the 70 cents a day rate charged to municipalities per patient days in hospitals, a \$5,000,000 increase in educational grants, and provision for civil service pay increases dating back to last July 1.

There were no personal tax cuts.

An ugly scene occurred on Feb. 10 when an angry mob of 300 Vancouver Island dairymen stormed the legislative buildings, pounded on the doors of the Legislature and demanded action over the abolition of their milk price differential which had been removed by the B.C. Milk Board a short time before.

Cabinet met a delegation, and at the session's end the matter had been resolved with the dairymen apparently satisfied.

## New Legislation

During the session a total of some 86 new acts and amendments to present statutes were introduced, most of which were passed.

Major legislation centred on the forestry and mining industries, the public schools of the province, and municipal matters.

Recommendations by former Chief Justice Gordon Sloan in his royal commission report were made law for the forest industry with the most important change being the ending of perpetual forest management licences to a renewable 21-year period for all future licences. And the government moved to change the name from forest management licences to "tree farm licences."

The storm which erupted over the new mining legislation last year abated somewhat after the government compromised with the mining industry on the matter of leases for mineral claims.

## Pressure Reduced

Leases may now be granted on a 21-year-renewable lease and the pressure put on lease holders to get into production has been greatly reduced.

The new Public Schools Act, the first major change in years,

saw the government move to ban blacklisting by teachers and school trustees alike only to change its mind late in the session with more stringent measures against the practice.

Unless the B.C. Teachers' Federation agrees not to blacklist, the government will deny the teachers the right to have a closed shop federation.

A large number of amendments were found necessary for

the Municipal Act which was pushed through a year ago. Some 345 alterations in the 899 section act were made, with the most important being the changes giving the municipalities the right to institute six-day shopping weeks if they wish and also to permit corner stores to remain open at nights.

## Naturopaths 'Freed'

Among other legislation passed were provisions giving naturopaths the right to control their own profession, establishment of a board which could give dental technicians the right to deal directly with the public without having dentists acting as "middle-men," and an act

which will allow the government to enter an agreement with Ottawa for a national health program.

Legislative committees probed juvenile delinquency, the closure of coal mines at Fernie, the similar situation in the copper mines at Britannia, seasonal unemployment, and heard opposing views on the acts concerning municipal affairs, dental technicians, and private bills.

Despite the sensational events at the beginning of the session, most observers yesterday were inclined to agree with Premier Bennett's assertion several weeks ago that "This is the quietest session I've seen."

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

Closed-Shop 'Club' Rammed Through

Socreds Win Bitter

Battle

Over Ultimatum  
to Teachers

## Union-Busting Move Opposition Claims

The provincial government, adamantly ignoring five hours of opposition appeals, rammed through legislation early this morning denying the right of the B.C. Teachers' Federation to have a closed shop, unless it agrees to stop black-listing school districts which refuse to negotiate with teachers.

Dan Campbell, 32-year-old Social Credit member for Comox and a teacher at Courtney High School, voted against the government on the question.

Opposition members—accusing the government of declaring war on teachers, "union-busting," and issuing an invitation for school boards to hire "scab labor"—appealed in vain to Education Minister Leslie Peterson to change his mind.

### HAPPY TO PROCLAIM

The minister promised that if he were satisfied there would be sufficient teachers next September, he would be happy to proclaim the section, which makes it mandatory for all school teachers to be members of the federation.

When the voting on the amendment first came up, Mr. Campbell left the legislature and the issue was carried 30 to 13.

"I think it is a good act and I have extreme confidence in the minister," said Mr. Campbell, "but I cannot, in all conscience, support the amendment."

### NEW VOTE

He returned to the house to find the CCF had asked a new vote on the amendment. It was carried 31 to 14 with Mr. Campbell voting with CCF and Liberal members against the government.

All members voted in favor of final reading of the Public Schools Act.

Mr. Peterson said the whole purpose of the amendment was

to make sure qualified teachers could be obtained for the province in the school year.

Former school teacher Randolph Harding (CCF Kaslo-Slocan) said he would rather quit the teaching profession than break the code of ethics set by the B.C. Teachers' Federation.

Mr. Peterson said he was not taking sides in the disputes between teachers and trustees but the only side he could take was the side of the school children.

### "UNION-BUSTING"

Opposition charges and government denials that the open shop provision amounts to "union-busting" highlighted four hours of debate on second reading, approval in principle, of the measure.

Gallery attendance was small during the afternoon section of this debate, but at night, the galleries had their biggest crowd of the session. Many teachers were present.

### RESTRICT LIBERTIES

CCF leader Robert Strachan opened with the charge that the open shop scheme was "union-busting" and a "method to restrict freedom of speech and civil liberties of teachers."

He urged that the new arbitration procedure apply to the 26 "blacklisted" school districts "instead of bludgeoning one group into submission until we reach Sept. 1," when it comes into effect.

### SWALLOW PRIDE

"I don't agree the problem will be solved in September, because the teachers might be aggrieved again," said George Gregory (Liberal, Victoria). "The best way is not to take sides, but give both sides an opportunity to swallow a bit of pride."

Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie) said that, by the open shop idea, "the minister has threatened the teachers... has more or less removed himself from the position of an arbiter."

### SOMMERS SPEAKS

R. E. Sommers (SC, Rossland-Trail), a former teacher, caused a stir when he said "perhaps teachers should have the right to strike and the right to blacklist, but if they do, then certainly the closed shop should be withdrawn."

"Let them come under the  
Continued on Page 2

## Closed

Continued from Page 1

full terms of the Labor Relations Act and have the same rights as other unions," he said. "Then they can negotiate as the other labor groups do."

### NOT BOTH WAYS

Mr. Sommers said that "far from bludgeoning them, it will give them more freedom. They can't have it both ways."

Both Arthur Turner (CCF Vancouver East) and Dan Campbell (SC, Comox) said the reference to strike action was "unfortunate."

Mr. Turner called the open shop clause "union-busting, the right to scab, a definite anti-labor move" and "a decidedly reactionary proposal that will get the teachers' backs up."

### ONLY FUNCTION

Mr. Campbell, a teacher, insisted that "the government's only function is as a mediator," and "I am very unhappy about the bill the minister has presented."

"Education is only in the cus-



THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

## Closed Shop 'Club'

Continued from Page 1

full terms of the Labor Relations Act and have the same rights as other unions," he said. "Then they can negotiate, as the other labor groups do."

### NOT BOTH WAYS

Mr. Sommers said that "far from bludgeoning them, it will give them more freedom. They can't have it both ways."

Both Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) and Dan Campbell (SC, Comox) said the reference to strike action was "unfortunate."

Mr. Turner called the open shop clause "union-busting, the right to scab, a definite anti-labor move" and "a decidedly reactionary proposal that will get the teachers' backs up."

### ONLY FUNCTION

Mr. Campbell, a teacher, insisted that "the government's only function is as a mediator," and "I am very unhappy about the bill the minister has presented."

"Education is only in the cus-

tody of government and never has been an instrument of government policy," he said. "It is very dangerous for a government to become involved at the top level with what is going on at the lower level."

### SET IT RIGHT

"I hope the minister will get this (situation) straight right tomorrow morning," said Mr. Campbell.

Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby), next of the total list of 17 debaters, warned the government "you will unite the teachers in an angry mood against the government that will only harm education."

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, another former teacher, said the bill was "one of the best" of the session and hoped "common sense will prevail on both parties."

### PULL BILL OUT

A last-ditch appeal to the government was made by John Squire (CCF, Alberni) to "pull the bill out, get together with both parties and bring in some-

thing acceptable to both the legislature and the people."

The teachers' advertisement in United Kingdom publications telling of the blacklist, Attorney-General R. W. Bonner said, "will probably result in substantial if not total failure of teacher recruitment there for this year."

### NOT ANXIOUS

"I think the bulk of teachers of this province are not anxious to be in this situation," he said. "If they are not required to be a member (of the teachers' federation), a number would want to offer their services."

"No one is particularly happy with it (the clause)," he said. "But no one has suggested any better solution."

Don Smith (SC, Victoria) was "disappointed" a clause was not inserted to prevent so-called "pinklisting" of teachers by boards.

### BRINK OF STRIKE

The education impasse, said Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook), was another example of the government's "brink of strike statesmanship."

Ran Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan), still another former teacher, aroused the House with the statement that "you can't gain one single recruit to the teaching profession by telling them to go in and scab against their fellow teachers."

### CAUSE RIFT

"If you do that," he said, "you will cause a rift in the teachers' organization, and between the organization and school boards, and between the organization and the people, that is going to take a long, long time to heal."

Concluding for the government, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston, an ex-teacher and former education minister, said the act will make schools administration "infinitely easier."

### WILL NEVER RUN

As for the open shop clause, he said present difficulties are moving teachers closer and closer to "some type of provincial salary scale," and "indicated a lack of common good faith and understanding of the problems facing all."

"The teachers will never run," he said. "They've got a job to do, the most important job in B.C."

"They'll be in the schools in September."

## Talking Politics

# MLAs Fall into Line For \$5,000 Reward

## Members Collect Their Pay Cheques

By PETER BRUTON

Members rushed out of the House after prorogation yesterday to queue up in the clerk of the legislature's office for their reward for sitting in the legislature for the past eight weeks.

The reason: Their cheques for \$5,000 were handed out.

**EYE OPENER:** Cedric Cox, the CCF member for Burnaby who was finishing off his first session as an MLA, yesterday expressed amazement at the way the government employed "steamroller tactics" to rid the order paper of opposition bills. "It's just a steamroller," he said.

"Toot, toot," called a government member.

**ONE LAW FOR ALL:** Tom Uphill had one last observation to make when the government rejected an opposition bid to amend the Hours of Work Act. "All members should be fined for breaking the 44-hour week in the Hours of Work Act," he declared.

Members who have been working day and night silently agreed.

## Frustrating but Legal

**HUNDRED PER CENT LEGAL:** Final business before prorogation was the debate on nine opposition bills, all of which were defeated or withdrawn.

"It's not good law to reject bills without giving us a reason," complained Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) as the government merely said it could not agree to the changes. "Maybe it's frustrating but it is perfectly legal," retorted Attorney General Robert Bonner.

**FLYING PHIL PLAYED:** Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi's famous aircraft caused the final flareup in the legislature a few minutes before pro-

rogation at noon yesterday. As usual the CCF had demanded the log of the aircraft and names of all passengers carried during the year. Mr. Gagliardi provided the log but the names were omitted.

Mr. Gagliardi tried to get a jump ahead of the opposition also.

Every year when he filed the log, he reported, questions were asked as to why his aircraft stopped at Kamloops so many times. The reasons are:

1. The plane's motors need 100 octane aviation gasoline and the supply bases for such gas is limited to Canadian Airline bases of which Kamloops is one.

## Mechanics Available

2. Kamloops is one of only a few places where necessary mechanical service is available.

3. Kamloops is centrally located for all Trans-Canada Highway work.

4. Kamloops is also one of the home bases for the aircraft.

Mr. Gagliardi, who was severely criticized for not answering the full question, said only about 50 per cent of the 91 trips to Kamloops during the year was to take him to the interior centre.

Omitted from the official record was the fact that Mr. Gagliardi, who lives in Kamloops,

goes there every weekend to preach in his Calvary Temple.

\*\*\*

## TILL WE MEET AGAIN:

Tom Uphill, venerable 83-year-old member for Fernie and a member of the legislature for 38 years, gave the benediction as Lieutenant-Governor Frank M. Ross strode from the legislature yesterday.

He hurled a sheaf of papers across the floor — narrowly missing former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers, then said:

"May we all be spared to meet again here next year."

T  
yes  
Ros  
the  
rea  
\$28  
Ma  
acc  
632  
195  
ena  
tion  
ma  
cos  
red  
the  
oth  
the  
yea  
tax  
and  
in  
ma  
sta  
to  
tie  
cos  
Sh  
ev  
mil



1958

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1958

line  
ard

## Legislature Prorogued

THE second session of the 25th Legislature of British Columbia, prorogued yesterday by Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross, granted Supply to the services of the Crown in the sum of \$310,045,509, the really big bill of the session. Of the total, \$284,041,448 is for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1959; \$20,747,459 to settle accounts in the period closing, and \$5,256,632 to close the books on the fiscal year 1956-57. The eight-week session saw enactment of many of the recommendations of the Sloan commission on forestry; materially changed the basis of municipal costs in school financing; substantially redrafted the Municipal Act, and added the usual quota of lesser measures for other purposes.

Imposing as the Supply Bill appears, the current budget is slightly less this year than last and without change in taxation. Large sums listed for highways and special public works can be spent or in part retained as the administration may determine in the light of circumstances. B.C. forestry law was restored to an operative condition. The municipalities will receive some help with school costs, if not all that they might wish. Shops regulation was thrown back, however, into their laps. Holding tenures on mineral claims were eased a little, to meet

objection from the mining industry. At the close of the session government ran into the highly contentious issue of teaching staff appointments; but under Education Minister Peterson maintained a firm and impartial stand in a dispute which has yet to be settled.

Elsewhere in the legislation enacted there were some noteworthy points. More practical authority over recalcitrants in the classroom, including parental responsibility for wilful damage; and a testator's right of suit in motor fatalities were among other moves.

Premier Bennett provided a sharp surprise after prorogation by announcing that Social Crediters from the cabinet down to the party organizations would jump into the federal election campaign, now in its closing days. This promises lively four-way contests in many B.C. constituencies and a further splitting of the votes. Social Credit candidates already had been nominated in a number of federal ridings; the move, however, meant that the provincial cabinet would take the field against the Progressive Conservatives' bid for re-election on March 31. This step may be self-defensive on the part of a provincial administration now approximately at mid-term, because it could hardly make an impression on the national scene.

**M A R**

**1958**



# 21-Year Limit on Licences In New Forest Regulations

Forestry legislation recommendations of the royal commission on forestry were introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Ray Williams, Minister of Agriculture, on March 1, 1958.

Mr. Williams said that the new regulations will provide for a 21-year limit on licences for the management of forests. He said that the new regulations will also provide for a 21-year limit on licences for the management of forests.

Provision is made for the appointment of provincial advisory councils or committees. No changes to the forestry taxation structure are included in the Forest Act amendments. There is a change, however, in the method of stumpage payments by licence-holders. Terms of the 23 forest management licences now in exist-

ence are unchanged, but they will be known as tree-farm licences.

The change in name from forest management to tree-farm is designed to help the government get across its sustained yield program to the public.

The new legislation also empowers the Forest Service to

Continued on Page 2

## MAIN POINTS

1. Twenty-one-year limit on future licences.
2. Sloan to hear all licence applications.
3. Management licences to be known as "tree-farm" licences.
4. Provision for advisory committees and councils.
5. Timber sale "blackmail" made illegal.

## ... SLOAN

Continued from Page 1

order a timber-holder to take measures to eradicate disease such as the black-headed budworm on his holdings.

If the operator does not take the necessary control measures, the Forest Service can take over and charge him for it.

Another measure allows the Forest Service to declare a temporary closure of an area where logs have been lost from a boom in a storm to allow the owner time to recover them.

The clause dealing with "blackmail" in timber sales states:

"A person who, before or at the time of a public sale of a licence to cut and remove Crown timber, by intimidation, combination, or unfair management, hinders or prevents, or attempts to hinder or prevent, any person from bidding upon or purchasing the licence offered for sale is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding \$500 and in default of imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years."

In addition, a person convicted under this clause is disqualified for two years from applying for any timber licence.

Mr. Sloan said in his report there was "no doubt" that unethical practices were taking place in timber sales and should be stamped out. Evidence was presented to the commission that:

"... an applicant for a sale would be approached by an individual before the auction commenced and be threatened that unless the applicant would agree to sell to him a certain portion of the logs from the sale at a discounted price he would bid the sale up to the detriment of the applicant for it."

The amendments to the Forest Act set out an entirely new procedure leading up to the award of management licences.

First step is for the operator to notify the minister of lands and forests of his intention to apply for a licence on a particular area.

If the land is not otherwise alienated, the minister will instruct the applicant to advertise in the Gazette and specified newspapers.

After at least two months have elapsed and the application and objections to it have been heard by Mr. Sloan, the minister may, with the approval of the cabinet, approve or reject the application.

If it is approved, the land will be placed under reserve

while the operator prepares detailed working plans which must be okayed by the chief forester.

The cabinet decision on the application will be based on the advice of Mr. Sloan, who will conduct his hearings in public.

The licence contains certain annual cutting requirements for the operator, which if not met can lead to cancellation.

This gives the government "year-by-year" control over the licence, which in itself has been granted "in perpetuity" under the present practice.

## 21-YEAR PERIOD

Mr. Sloan recommended that "in order to make government control more evident to the public," the perpetual term be eliminated and licences issued for a 21-year period.

The government has included this recommendation in the new legislation.

The licence will be renewable after 21 years, but subject to renegotiation of the terms under the provisions of the act at that time.

Details of the advisory councils provided for in the amendments will be worked out by regulation. It is expected to take at least two or three years before they are in operation.

In the meantime, Mr. Sloan, who will later become chairman of the central advisory board, may seek the advice of persons in the industry.

## Con Pol

Power government of public Premierature F In 195 developed any other the prem "Publ here are he said. Mr. B publicly would b competit Defend

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1953

## Combined Public-Private Power Policy Boon to B.C.—Bennett

Power policy of the provincial government is a "combination" of public and private power, Premier Bennett told the legislature Friday.

In 1957 this combination developed more new power than any other province in Canada, the premier declared.

"Public and private power here are both on their toes," he said.

Mr. Bennett suggested the publicly-owned Ontario Hydro would be more efficient with competition.

Defending the huge proposed

Wenner-Gren hydro development on the Peace River, the premier said, the government didn't want to be forced to borrow up to \$800,000,000 for a public project in this area.

He said the Power Commission had chosen to use natural gas for power generation in the north-central area of the province.

Then Wenner-Gren came along with the Peace River proposal, involving a 500-mile transmission line to the lower mainland.

There is no physical problem in the transmission that cannot

be surmounted, the premier said.

## Outside Resources Control Condemned in Legislature

Criticism of the operators of the Britannia copper mine for their "discourteous method of doing business" was voiced in the legislature Friday by Mines Minister Kiernan.

The minister said he had received no notification from the company of the decision to close down the mine today.

He described the company action as "abrupt."

"It shows how vulnerable we are as long as we continue to produce resources for industries of other countries," Mr. Kiernan said.

The legislature unanimously agreed to refer the Britannia situation to the House labor committee for study.

The motion was introduced by Donald Robinson (SC, Lillooet) who said an "emergency" existed involving the employment of 500 workers and the security of their families.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the Britannia shutdown "should bring home to the people of B.C. and of Canada the danger when we allow control of our resources to go outside our borders."

The decision to close the mine was made by company directors in Salt Lake City, he said.

Premier Bennett said the government's new mining lease system replacing crown-granted mineral claims will provide control over such situations.

George Gregory (Lib, Victoria) disagreed, saying Britannia would have had the same economic problem whether it was under a grant or a lease.

### PRICES PROBLEM

## Britannia Shutdown 'Temporary'

BRITANNIA BEACH, B.C. (CP)—An official of the company which owns and operates a huge copper mine due to shut down here today has described the halt as a "temporary suspension until copper prices go up."

Joseph Rosenblatt, chairman of the Howe Sound Company of Salt Lake City, said Friday night 400 workers at the mine will be laid off or "furloughed until such time as the price of copper permits us to start again."

He said the price of copper has dropped twice since the first of the year, and another drop is impending. He said the firm felt it could not justify processing the ore here considering the low market price.

Rosenblatt indicated his company has no intention of disposing of its residences and other property at the mine since it fully intends to resume operations in the future.



SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1958



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Premier Bennett never loses an opportunity of asserting that his government is not a dictatorship. This may be because he knows the average man thinks of him as a typical strong man—possibly a father figure.

"This is a government by the people, for the people," he asserted Friday. "It is not a dictatorship and never will be."

Whenever a Social Credit member criticizes government policy, the premier looks around triumphantly as if to say: "You see what freedom these men have."

It is true that many Social Credit members have criticized government policy—particularly on agriculture—but where major issues are concerned, the premier's voice usually prevails.

During debate on a bill which would raise the government's borrowing power from \$60,000,000 to \$80,000,000 for the operation of toll bridges, he again asserted that Social Credit members are free to express their own opinions.

"That is why we are growing in stature," he said.

"Beware the Ides of March," responded CCF leader Robert Strachan, apparently referring to the stabbing of Caesar.

\* \* \*

Leo Nimsick, the genial CCF member for Cranbrook, complained that the premier spoke as if he were "giving" toll bridges to the people whereas the people had to pay for them.

"I have been opposed to toll bridges from the start," he said. "We are using the credit of the province to build these bridges. Tolls should not be charged on any part of the Queen's highway."

"I am surprised so many members of the government are in favor of toll bridges," he declared.

George Murray (SC-Delta) replied that toll bridges are the "lesser of two evils," but

CCF leader Robert Strachan responded:

"This act dodges the issue. We will vote against it."

\* \* \*

Just before the House adjourned, George Gregory (Liberal-Victoria) addressed a verbal question to the Premier.

Premier Bennett questioned why it was not on the order paper and Mr. Gregory answered:

"It is not the sort of question you can ask in that form."

It was ruled out of order but Mr. Gregory confided in the corridors that he was merely asking for details of the Premier's latest offer to the University of British Columbia.

"We know he has offered them a matching grant of \$10,000," Mr. Gregory said, "but he has given no details as to how this grant will be made."

"I shall raise the question again."

\* \* \*

Premier Bennett confided to reporters that his favorite relaxation at the end of a hectic day is watching TV.

He likes sports and western dramas but generally avoids dramatic shows because he finds them "too heavy."

He also enjoys reading biographies of famous statesmen, especially those of Sir John A. Macdonald, the great Canadian statesman, whose bust stands in his office.

Young visitors to the House Friday were Beverley and Maurice Midland, grandchildren of Bert Kergen, a former Liberal MLA.

They were guests of Tom Uphill, the 83-year-old Labor member of the legislature.

# He Ov Ro

An Opp  
General Bo  
was voted  
explosive 2

Three Soc  
benchers—Cy  
line Corbett  
abstained fro

They told  
wards they c  
attorney-gene  
did not want  
while the  
court case a  
ests minister  
and other fir  
is still in p

The debat  
by:

1. The firs  
Premier Ben  
in which he  
ment would  
criminal ac  
charges were  
cember, 19  
against it o  
legal author

2. An imp  
his actions b  
accused Opp

## 'He Ha

The non-  
was introdu  
Robert Str  
mates for th  
department  
House at th  
noon sitting  
Mr. Strach  
Bo's \$11  
by — th  
men y m  
dence.

"He has v  
he should b  
fice," the op  
When a s  
motion was  
and Mr. C  
left the ch  
had gone o  
fore.

The fina  
against the  
supported b  
two Liberal  
Tom Uphill  
Bryan, who  
quit govern  
handling of

Mr. Somer  
chamber fo  
during the

Later, Mi  
spokesman  
ernment be  
stained, sai  
of the attor  
but didn't t  
himself n  
dicing the

In the d  
argued the

NO CLIPPINGS FOR MONDAY  
March 3 1958

# Heated Row Over Bonner Rocks House

By PETER MURRAY  
Times Legislative Reporter

An Opposition motion of non-confidence in Attorney-General Bonner over his handling of the Sommers affair was voted down by the government majority after an explosive 2½-hour debate in the Legislature Monday.

Three Social Credit backbenchers—Cyril Sheldford, Irvine Corbett and Fred Sharp—abstained from the vote.

They told reporters afterwards they disapproved of the attorney-general's actions but did not want to pass judgment while the bribery-conspiracy court case against former forests minister R. E. Sommers and other firms and individuals is still in progress.

The debate was highlighted by:

1. The first full statement by Premier Bennett on the affair, in which he said the government would have preferred a criminal action when the charges were first made in December, 1955, but decided against it on the advice of its legal authorities.

2. An impassioned defence of his actions by Mr. Bonner, who accused Opposition members of

"psychological jury-packing" by their statements.

3. Prediction by Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) that the attorney-general's delaying actions in the case will lead to the "ruination" of the government. Mr. Harding demanded that the government resign and call an immediate provincial general election.

4. Bitter exchanges between Mr. Bonner and George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria) who demanded to know how Mr. Sommers had obtained a copy of the statutory declaration of Vancouver lawyer David Sturdy on which the former minister based his civil libel and slander suit.

5. A claim by Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) that Mr. Sommers should not be sitting in the House as a member for Rossland-Trail while the court case is in progress.

## 'He Has Violated His Trust'

The non-confidence motion was introduced by CCF leader Robert Strachan when estimates for the attorney-general's department came before the House at the start of the afternoon sitting.

Mr. Strachan moved that Mr. Bonner's \$12,500 salary be cut by — the traditional parliamentary motion of non-confidence.

"He has violated his trust and he should be relieved of his office," the opposition leader said.

When a standing vote on the motion was called, Mr. Sheldford and Mr. Corbett immediately left the chamber. Mr. Sharp had gone out a short time before.

The final vote was 29-14 against the motion, which was supported by 10 CCF members, two Liberals and Independents Tom Uphill and J. Melvin Bryan, who earlier this session quit government ranks over the handling of the Sommers case.

Mr. Sommers, who was in the chamber for only 10 minutes during the debate, did not vote.

Later, Mr. Sheldford, acting as spokesman for the three government backbenchers who abstained, said they didn't approve of the attorney-general's actions but didn't think he could defend himself now without prejudicing the court case.

In the debate, Mr. Strachan argued that on the basis of

"vague allegations" made by former Liberal member Gordon Gibson in the legislature in February, 1955, the government had immediately set up a royal commission inquiry into the granting of forest management licences.

But in December, 1955, when Mr. Sturdy presented a statutory declaration and offered to turn over 198 pieces of documentary evidence, the government brushed the matter aside.

"What mental contortions could justify action on vague allegations, inaction on sworn testimony and documentary evidence?" Mr. Strachan asked.

The Opposition leader charged that the attorney-general had refused to take action "because he feared the impact and airing of such evidence would have on the standing of his government and his political party."

Mr. Strachan also accused Premier Bennett of calling a "snap" general provincial election in 1956 while the civil slander action of Mr. Sommers against Mr. Sturdy dragged on in the courts.

During the election campaign the premier "identified himself and his government with anything and everything Mr. Sommers may have done while minister of the Crown," the CCF leader said.

## Bonner Guilty of 'Malfeasance'

"Perhaps the most disturbing aspect of this whole matter is the seeming unawareness by the attorney-general of his position," Mr. Strachan said.

"His blithe refusal to consider seriously the requests two years ago for a judicial inquiry, his blanket denial that the RCMP report contained sufficient material to provoke criminal charges, his tardy appointment of a short-lived royal commission, and finally, the damning criminal charges which he ordered after almost two years of deliberate evasion and failure to act on what he himself referred to 'as questions of public importance', all condemn him as unfit to hold his present office."

The attorney-general is guilty of "malfeasance" because he violated his trust to the people, Mr. Strachan said.

Mr. Bonner, in reply, said the statutory declaration of Mr. Sturdy presented at an interview in his office Dec. 7, 1955, was "most unusual and incomplete in form."

The declaration before being shown to him had been presented to Ron Howard, "a prominent Liberal," the attorney-general said, and also to Mr. Gibson.

Mr. Bonner said no documentary evidence was given to him to support the declaration.

"It was offered to you," Mr. Gregory said.

"It was not," Mr. Bonner said. "I know it was," Mr. Gregory retorted.

"You know perfectly well, my friend, the first time it was offered

was in your letter to me (two months later)," the attorney-general said.

In a later exchange, Mr. Bonner said "Why the statutory declaration did not have the documentary evidence appended to it, I cannot explain."

"It will," Mr. Gregory said. "The material was not appended because it was feared the attorney-general might not do what he should have done . . . but it was offered."

"That is the most revealing statement to come out of that side of the House," the attorney-general said as government members banged their desks.

Mr. Bonner said that Mr. Sturdy was aware of the evidence for three months and had discussed it with a number of people before coming to him.

"Yet on Dec. 7, when the affidavit was waved under my nose, overnight I was supposed to come to a decision."

Said Mr. Bonner: "I took the position on Dec. 7, and since, that either we had a matter for the police or we didn't have a matter at all. It was just as simple as that."

Mr. Sturdy had the alternative of laying the charges in court himself, the attorney-general said as government members again applauded.

Mr. Bonner lashed out at Mr. Gregory for bringing to the legislature "a degree of unpleasantness in assertions not equalled by other members." He accused the Liberal member of being "a bit childish."

Mr. Gregory in turn accused the attorney-general of "blow-

Continued on Page 21



TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

The House sat from 2 p.m. till way past midnight this morning discussing estimates for the Attorney-General Robert Bonner's department and this evoked a complaint from Arthur Turner, the usually genial CCF member for Vancouver East.

"Many of us have to attend committees late this morning," he said. "We cannot bring fresh minds to our work when we have to sit this late."

Most other members felt the same, but the government would not be rushed.

The steady drone of estimates, starting with the attorney-general's salary and office expenses, provoked a wide variety of debatable topics ranging from the sale of liquor to Indians to safe driving and a demand for the attorney-general's resignation.

★ ★ ★

Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi slept through part of the evening but woke up abruptly at 10.40 p.m. when a chorus of "ayes" against a smattering of "nos" from the opposition marked passage of a vote of \$24,964 for Mr. Bonner's office and salary.

★ ★ ★

Two members of the legislature confessed to having given up former indulgences.

During discussion of horse-racing regulations, Mr. Turner confided that he had stopped betting on horses long ago because he decided it was "a losing game."

A debate on drinking laws for Indians prompted W. J. Asselstine (SC-Atlin), a former Liberal minister of mines, to say that he had not taken a drink for 12 years.

He admitted to once having had dealings with bootleggers and declared:

"They are not a good influence in a community."

Mr. Asselstine said the present liquor laws, forbidding the

sale of liquor of Indians in government liquor stores, are driving them to the bootleggers.

He supported a suggestion from Cyril Shelford, the outspoken Socred member from Omineca, that Indians should be given the same liquor privileges as white men.

"I don't think there is any more drunkenness among natives than whites," Mr. Asselstine stated. "But because natives cannot legally buy elsewhere, they often drink all they can in beer parlors."

"In my constituency some people go to the beer parlors to watch the antics of the natives, which means they get more attention."

Attorney-General Bonner replied that representations made to his department in this regard are being investigated.

★ ★ ★

John Tisdalle, the loquacious member for Saanich, lashed out at drink in general and said it had been observed there are three parties in the United States—the Republican Party, the Democratic Party and the Cocktail Party.

★ ★ ★

A new code of manners related to high-powered cars, dial telephones and hydrogen bombs was recommended by Tony Gargrave, the young CCF member for Mackenzie, who is also a student at Victoria College.

During discussion on driver education, Mr. Gargrave pointed out that considerate driving could be regarded as old-fashioned good manners related to the mechanical age.

"We also need a code of good manners in the use of the hydrogen bombs and other technological fields such as the dial telephone."

"In Vancouver," he added, "people often dial carelessly after midnight so that disinterested parties are rudely awakened from their well-earned slumbers."

★ ★ ★

Attorney-General Bonner and CCF leader Strachan don't usually see eye to eye across the floor of the House. But both agreed that professional driver instruction is better for teen-agers than parent training.

"Before any children of mine are allowed to drive a car they will be properly trained," said Mr. Bonner.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958

## Alcohol 'Greatest Menace' To Society, Says Tisdalle

A large portion of the profit the B.C. government makes from liquor sales is spent in the treatment of alcoholics, John Tisdalle (S.C., Saanich) said in the legislature Monday night.

"It is like pouring money out of one pocket into another," he declared.

Mr. Tisdalle quoted from a medical report stating that a 54-year-old man had been jailed for drunkenness 285 times in the last 32 years. This expense added to numerous hospital treatments amounted to a total cost of \$44,864.

"Alcohol is the greatest menace to our society today," he declared.

### SET EXAMPLE

"I am not saying we have a solution in absolute prohibition. But we should teach abstinence in the schools and be careful what sort of an example we set to young people in our drinking habits."

He said statistics showed

that one out of every 15 in the United States becomes an alcoholic, and he called for tighter control of liquor advertising.

"Too many advertisements deliberately associate the finer things of life, such as fishing and game hunting, with the liquor bottle."

W. J. Asselstine (S.C., Atlin) spoke of the government's "sympathetic treatment" of alcoholics through its clinics.

"If the government had done nothing else, I sit on this side

of the House for their handling of the treatment of alcoholics," he said.

Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby) urged the amendment of drinking laws to provide something along the lines of the British pub.

"When I was over there in 1954 I never saw as many drunks over the weekend as I do in Vancouver. The British pubs offer a little entertainment and good fellowship. People do not go there just to swill down

## PUC Must Rule On Invalid's Trip to South

The B.C. Motor Carrier's Act was criticized in the legislature Monday night by Archie Gibbs, the Liberal member for Oak Bay.

"If I was an invalid and wanted to get a companion driver to take me to the southern clime of the United States, I could not do so without permission from the Public utilities commission," Mr. Gibbs said.

"That is the situation that exists under this act."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner promised to look into the jurisdiction provided by the act.

## NO ELECTION SAYS BENNETT

Premier Bennett said today he doesn't plan to call an election over Attorney-General Robert Bonner's handling of the Sommers case.

The CCF Opposition has challenged the premier to call an election.

"I remember in the 1956 session they challenged me to call an election and when I did they called it a snap election."

"They are just talking politics," he said.

## VODKA REVIEW IN SPRING, SAYS BONNER

Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) asked in the legislature Monday why British Columbians could not buy Russian vodka by the bottle, as is done in the United States.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner admitted that at present vodka can only be ordered in B.C. by the case.

But, he added, the Liquor Control Board will review its decision on vodka this spring.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Enlivening a dull afternoon of debate on estimates Tuesday, the House heard a new definition of narrow-mindedness from its one and only Premier of Mirth.

Plunging into a discussion on the treatment of alcoholics, 83-year-old Tom Uphill from Fernie, declared:

"Some of these prohibitionists are so narrow-minded they can look down the neck of a medicine bottle with both eyes at once."

Actually Mr. Uphill's impromptu speech had little to do with the treatment of alcoholics but he seemed anxious to make the point that prohibitionism is not the answer.

"During the old prohibition days there was more juvenile delinquency and more drunkenness among boys and girls than at any other time."

"If a girl went to a dance the first thing she asked a boy was 'Have you a mickey on you?' I tell you—I have seen prohibition tried in many places, and it simply doesn't work. It is the worst thing you could have anywhere."

In his usual provocative style, Mr. Uphill pointed to Soviet Russia, the home of vodka, as a shining example of freedom from drunkenness.

He had been there twice. He had never seen a drunk on the streets and the finest lecture on temperance he ever heard came from a trade unionist in Leningrad.

"It was only during the Czar's reign that the Russians got drunk. He encouraged the people to get sozzled they couldn't think for themselves."

Estimates of expenditure for Attorney-General Robert Bonner's department finally got through after nearly 11 hours of mainly wearisome debate—the longest time spent on one minister's estimates for many years.

In the closing stages Bert Price, the small intense Socred member for Vancouver Burrard, touched off an explosion with the statement:

"We are spending too much money on prisoners."

Perhaps the most musical

voice in the House is that of Alex Matthew, the deputy speaker and Social Credit member for Vancouver Centre.

Mr. Matthew has the happy knack of looking pleased with everyone around him and when, as committee chairman, he stands under the royal chair and calls "Mr. Speaker" in mellifluous tones it sounds as if he were pleading with the Speaker to come in out of the snow.

A former president of the British Columbia Press Gallery returned to his old haunts Tuesday after many years of service in other fields.

The visitor was Norman Senior, until recently Canadian Consul in San Francisco, who has now retired to Victoria.

In the public galleries was 73-year-old George Barclay, retired Saskatchewan farmer, who came out here last year. "Generally speaking, I'd say people in Victoria take life a lot easier than they do back home," he observed.

## Utilities Firms Protest Taxation

Representatives of the B.C. Electric and B.C. Telephone Companies told the legislative municipal affairs committee Tuesday night they are now paying more than their fair share of local taxes.

The officials were protesting a proposed new municipal business tax on administrative offices of utility companies.

The new tax was proposed by the city of Victoria and is now before the legislature for approval.

## MLA Seeks Hike In Pay for Jury

Higher daily allowances for persons serving on juries were urged in the legislature Tuesday by Rae Eddie (CCF, New Westminster).

The present \$6 allowance works a hardship on many people, Mr. Eddie said.

Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) said the existing rate was set during the depression. It tends to make jurymen give "begudging" service, he said.

## CCF LEADER RENEWS STEEL INDUSTRY PLEA

The provincial government should take steps to set up a publicly-owned iron and steel industry in B.C., CCF Leader Robert Strachan told the Legislature Tuesday.

"Private industry has had its opportunity," Mr. Strachan said.

Establishment of a basic iron and steel industry here has been talked about since 1912, the Opposition leader said.

"We've fritted away years."

## Socred Attacks Prison 'Waste'

### Prisoners Not Worth Money Spent on Them Says Price

Bert Price, outspoken Social Credit MLA for Vancouver-Burrard, claimed Tuesday that large sums of money spent on provincial prisons are "wasted."

"The prisoners are not worth it," Mr. Price declared.

He urged the government to cut \$1,000,000 from its prison budget and make the inmates do more work.

"The money might be better spent on old-age pensioners," the government member said. "It's not fair that these prisoners get California lettuce and the pensioners don't."

"NOT FAIR"

Mr. Price said the prisoners get "good milk and butter, pleasant surroundings, playgrounds . . . everything under the sun," while some other law-abiding citizens have to go without.

"It's not a fair deal," Mr. Price said. A few other government members applauded his statement.

"Back to the stone age," said Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan).

"Let's go back to galley ships," said Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

But Mr. Price persisted with his argument.

The new Haney Correctional Institution would be "far better used as a boys' industrial school," he said.

"It's not fair to waste money on prisoners the way we have. We owe it to the public to reduce it. The only way to reduce the jail population is hard work."

"It's not fair to waste money on prisoners the way we have. We owe it to the public to reduce it. The only way to reduce the jail population is hard work."

Mr. Price said the average term of prisoners to be sent to Haney will be six months, not enough time to learn a trade.

Attorney-General Bonner said he was not aware of this situation and would inquire into it.

Attorney-General Bonner said he was not aware of this situation and would inquire into it.

## Liberal Appeal For U

Two Victoria Social Credit members Tuesday night to

George Gregory and Minister Peterson indicated when they would start the p

The minister wasn't up to him the Victoria College the University of

UP TO COUNCIL

"We will co-operate in growth and development is up to the council. We will give our support to any proposal that will make a difference."

Mr. Peterson said "sympathetic" to tending its council third and fourth

Mr. Gregory argued for a student population in 10 years, said Mr. Gregory said

On the basis of growth, the university student population in 10 years, said Mr. Gregory said

The Victoria University is not be a part of Mr. Gregory said

## Catholic For

The Cathedral was unanimously approved as the new Victoria's new Catholic Works Ministry announced Wednesday

He said both strict improvement and the Capital Building Board would be built the city's

"We have agreed with the Chant on the cabinet."

He added that Hart, a former British Columbia land for

"Mr. Hart said sight in doing we should give Mr. Chant said

The minister tails of const courthouse worked out strict improvement

"There is starting date Mr. Chant

## RENEWS RY PLEA

should take steps to steel industry in B.C. CCF Legislature Tuesday. "Mr. Str... opportunity," Mr. Str... and steel industry here the Opposition leader said.

## Attacks aste' rth Money ays Price

ial Credit MLA for Van-day that large sums of ons are "wasted." "The prisoners are not worth," Mr. Price declared. He urged the government to \$1,000,000 from its prison dget and make the inmates more work. "The money might be better ent on old-age pensioners," e government member said. "It's not fair that these prison- get California lettuce and e pensioners don't."

**NOT FAIR**  
Mr. Price said the prisoners t "good milk and butter, easant surroundings, play- ounds... everything under e sun," while some other law- dling citizens have to go with- ut.

"It's not a fair deal," Mr. ice said. A few other govern- ent members applauded his atement.

"Back to the stone age," said andolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo- ococan).

"Let's go back to galley- ps," said Opposition Leader bert Strachan.

But Mr. Price persisted with is argument. "The new Haney Correctional itution would be 'far better sed as a boys' industrial hool," he said.

"It's not fair to waste money n prisoners the way we have. e owe it to the public to re- ce it. The only way to reduce e jail population is hard work."

Mr. Price said the average erm. of prisoners to be sent to aney will be six months, not ough time to learn a trade.

## Liberal, Socred Appeal Jointly For University

Two Victoria MLAs—one a Liberal and the other a Social Crediter—joined forces in the legislature Wednesday night to plead for a university in Victoria.

George Gregory and Donald Smith both asked Education Minister Peterson to give an indication when the government would start the project.

The minister replied that it wasn't up to him to decide, but the Victoria College Council and the University of B.C. govern- nors.

### UP TO COUNCIL

"We will co-operate in the growth and development, but it is up to the council," he said. "We will give consideration to any proposal the council wishes to make."

Mr. Peterson said he was "sympathetic" to the college extending its courses to include third and fourth years.

Mr. Gregory said the best argument for a university in Victoria is the size of the present campus at U.B.C.

On the basis of present growth, the university will have a student population of 28,000 in 10 years, which is too big, Mr. Gregory said.

The Victoria university should not be a part of U.B.C., he said. Mr. Gregory suggested the four-

year arts course, because it does not require expensive laboratories, could be moved to Victoria.

He urged the minister to in-quire into the possibility of pur- chasing the Gordon Head army camp land from the department of national defence for the future campus.

Mr. Smith said students from this area now are put to an extra expense in having to move to the mainland to attend university.

A university in Victoria would attract students from all over the continent, he said, and would be a great asset to the capital city.

## Cathedral Site For Courthouse

The Cathedral Hill site has been unanimously recommend- ed as the most suitable for Victoria's new courthouse, Pub- lic Works Minister W. N. Chant announced Wednesday night.

He said both the Capital Dis- trict Improvement Commission and the Capital Region Plan- ning Board were agreed that the city's new courthouse should be built on this site.

"We have no reason to dis- agree with them," said Mr. Chant on behalf of the B.C. cabinet.

He added that the late John Hart, a former premier of Brit- ish Columbia, had purchased the land for use by the city.

### CREDIT TO HART

"Mr. Hart showed great fore- sight in doing this and I think we should give him the credit," Mr. Chant said.

The minister added that de- tails of construction of the new courthouse would have to be worked out by the Capital Dis- trict Improvement Commission. "There is still no definite starting date," he said.

Mr. Chant added that it is

hoped to "have the Lieutenant- governor in residence" at the new Government House next fall.

Final cost of the work might be more than \$1,000,000.

## Price of Gas For B.C. Fair

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan denied Wednesday that B.C. consumers are paying more for Peace River natural gas than consumers in the U.S.

"My evidence indicates con- sumers of natural gas in Van- couver (B.C.), Portland and Seattle are paying approxi- mately the same price," Mr. Kiernan told the legislature.

"And the benefit of the doubt is somewhat in favor of the people of Vancouver."

George Gregory (Lib.-Vic- toria) said Westcoast Trans- mission Co. is selling gas from its pipeline to B.C. distributors for 32 cents per thousand cubic feet, compared with 22 cents to U.S. distributors.

Mr. Kiernan said this price differential is explained by two different types of contracts. The B.C. distributors just pay for the gas they take, he said, while the U.S. distributors pay for a guaranteed amount whether they use it or not.

## Professor Asks 5-Year Probe Of Youth Needs

### House Committee Gets Recommendation

Creation of a provincial "commission of youth ser- vices" was proposed today to the legislative committee investigating the juvenile delinquency problem in B.C. Professor W. G. Dixon, head of the University of B.C. School of Social Work, said the com- mission should be made up of both government officials and private citizens.

Its main function would be to formulate policy and advise the government, he said.

### FIVE YEAR JOB

Prof. Dixon suggested the commission be set up for at least five years.

At present there is no govern- ment agency which has the responsibility of formulating policy in the field of youth services, he said, "and certainly there is little mechanism for co-ordination."

Prof. Dixon also supported previous submissions before the committee urging a thorough royal commission inquiry into juvenile delinquency.

The last comprehensive sur- vey of child welfare in B.C. was in 1927, and the most recent study on delinquency services was made in 1937, he said.

### HIGHER GRANTS

Other recommendations in the brief:

1. Increased social assistance rates and mothers' allowances;
2. Higher grants-in-aid to local areas for recreation services;
3. A thorough study of the administration and financing of the juvenile court system "be- cause of its lag behind other social developments in B.C."

Prof. Dixon also submitted statistics showing that juvenile delinquency is increasing in B.C. at a faster rate than in Canada as a whole.

## Legislative Body To Meet Saturday On Municipal Act

A meeting of the legislative committee on municipal affairs, to deal with revisions to the Municipal Act, will be held next Saturday morning.

"We have called this meeting because there is so much to be done and so many represen- tations have to be called," a member of the committee said Tuesday night.

The committee has met morning and evening, some- times in camera, for the past week. It is concerned with the amendments to the Municipal Act to be presented to the leg- islature this week or next.

Some of these amendments affect store closing.



PROF. W. G. DIXON  
... co-ordination needed.

## Mental Hospital Strike Hinted By CCF Member

Poor working conditions in provincial mental institutions were blamed by a CCF member of the legislature Wednesday for discontent among govern- ment workers in the mental health services.

"If this is not faced seriously you will have a strike vote at Essondale soon," Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) warned the government.

Mr. Cox said it was up to the government to inquire into the situation and "find out what is wrong."

He was speaking in support of a resolution introduced by Gordon Dowding, the other Burnaby CCF member, recom- mending that the legislative so- cial welfare and education com- mittee hear briefs from the B.C. Medical Association, Cana- dian Mental Health Association and other organizations.

Debate on the resolution was adjourned by Provincial Secre- tary Wesley Black.

Mr. Dowding said such an in- quiry would "clear the air" over disputed reports of staff cuts in mental institutions.

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kas- lo-Slocan) said the committee should try to discover why there is a shortage of trained staff for the institutions. He suggested that salaries may be too low.

Dan Campbell (SC-Cornox) opposed the inquiry because he said the opposition would make a "political football" of it.

Mr. Campbell suggested that interested organizations send their briefs directly to the pro- vincial secretary.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Our Social Credit government has the biggest and best of everything, according to Leo Nimsick, the lively CCF member for Cranbrook.

Mr. Nimsick told the house he was so used to superlatives from the government he would not be surprised if it claimed to have the biggest teacher shortage.

Everyone laughed, of course, but Mr. Nimsick continued merrily along his theme. He said the teacher shortage in British Columbia would continue indefinitely unless the government adopted a long-term policy on teacher training.

Both Britain and New Zealand had subsidized the training of teachers and Canada took advantage of this by luring their trained teachers over here.

"The least we can do is to adopt a similar system ourselves," he declared.

Leslie Peterson—probably the youngest education minister the province has ever seen—had a ready reply for Mr. Nimsick.

"It is true," he said, "that everyone likes to come to B.C. and that includes teachers from Britain, New Zealand, the United States and other parts of Canada."

"But I would point out that we do not lure teachers away from their homelands. We only interview teachers who have already expressed a desire to come to this province."

Mr. Peterson said English teachers wishing to come here usually addressed their inquiries to British Columbia House in London or direct to the government.

And then, fixing Mr. Nimsick with a challenging eye, he added that the CCF government in Saskatchewan had adopted an "even more vigorous recruitment of teachers from England."

"The only drawback to this program is that after a while in Saskatchewan the teachers are usually glad to come out to British Columbia."

Whether the young minister was referring to Saskatchewan's politics or its climate was not revealed. You could take it either way.

★ ★ ★  
Randolph Harding, another provocative CCFer, said the famous Russian Sputniks pointed to a new concept of education.

"They have shown us that because we have been living in a very progressive civilization does not mean we shall always be in the lead. Unless we have a highly-trained and equipped army of people we cannot hope to keep our place in a technological world."

Mr. Harding urged the government to provide more substantial grants to encourage students in the "higher" fields of education.

Throughout this debate on estimates for the ministry of education, Premier Bennett displayed an almost extraordinary agility.

At one moment we saw him in the Premier's time-honored chair. At another he had vaulted into the seat vacated by Robert Sommers—the most controversial figure in the House—next to Mrs. Buda Brown, the kindly Socred member for Point Grey.

Then, almost before you could turn a page in your notebook, he suddenly manifested on the other side in the chair normally filled by Alex Matthew, the benevolent member for Vancouver Centre, who was doing duty as committee chairman.

In a House of tired people, the Premier insists on looking blithe and carefree. Whether he really feels that way or is striving to keep up morale is a matter for conjecture.

Back in his rightful place, the premier rose at least a dozen times to close off de-

bate, but before he could separate himself from his chair by more than three inches another speaker would add the "one word more, brethren."

"There is still room for speculation," began Gordon Dowling, the CCF member for Burnaby.

"It's too late for speculation," interrupted a government member . . .

★ ★ ★  
Gordon Wismer, former attorney general and a pioneer of the Borstal system in B.C., returned to the House as a guest and sat on the government side.

He was welcomed by Premier Bennett and Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) as an attorney-general of eight years' standing—probably the longest term ever served by any attorney-general in the province.

## MLAs Question Immigration Ads

Advertisements in British newspapers give the impression Canada is crying out for labor, C.C.F. leader Robert Strachan told the legislature Wednesday.

Mr. Strachan quoted from an advertisement in the Cumberland News of Jan. 25 last, which read:

Canada urgently requires farm workers, skilled and semi-skilled tradesmen, nurses, school teachers, shorthand typists.

The advertisement invited would-be immigrants to meet a Canadian immigration specialist to talk over prospects of settling in Canada.

"We wonder why such advertisements should appear in British newspapers while we are

debating unemployment in Canada," Mr. Strachan said. "And we wonder if there is some liaison between this government and the Canadian Immigration Department."

The CCF leader supported a motion from George Gregory (Liberal-Victoria) that all correspondence since 1952 between the provincial government and the federal minister of citizenship and immigration dealing with British Columbia's policy of absorbing immigrants be tabled in the house.

The motion was carried unanimously by all sides.

## CCFer Urges More Ottawa Education Aid

Increased federal aid to the provinces for education was urged in the legislature Wednesday night by Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan).

"We shouldn't be backward about seeking more aid from Ottawa," Mr. Harding said.

"We've got to get more so that any child capable of higher education gets that opportunity."

His stand was supported by Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) who said federal assistance could be given without interfering with provincial autonomy in the education field.

Mr. Nimsick said the provincial government should be particularly concerned about recruiting more students into the teaching profession.

## Hansard Waste of Time—Socred

Adoption of a Hansard for the provincial legislature would double the length of the sessions, a government back-bencher said Wednesday.

Cyril Shelford (SC-Omineca) said if there were verbatim reports of House proceedings, government back-benchers would be expected by their constituents to speak on every resolution and bill.

These members now can have their say in the government

caucus without taking up the time of the legislature, Mr. Shelford said.

Debate on a resolution introduced by CCF Leader Robert Strachan urging adoption of a tape-recorded Hansard system was adjourned.

Mr. Strachan said events at the current session had shown the need for verbatim reporting. Many members had claimed they were misquoted in the press, he said.

Policy speeches of cabinet ministers should be on a permanent record, the opposition leader said. He pointed out that historians working on centennial year projects had deplored the fact there was no Hansard in the past.

## Ott

Health Minister said in legislative night Ontario agreement with government on a new insurance program had only just draft agreement.

"In fact," he said, "the agreement is just a sign. It is obvious to government is to have British benefit under the to have Ontario participate."

"Don't forget servative government," remarked Harding (CCF-Vancouver Centre) triumphantly.

## DISCREDIT

"It is certain credit of the ment that all not receive this at the same Harding.

Mr. Mart B.C. was the Canada to show willingness to

"We have in every possible start of the have played gations from ernment as provincial government whom sought

## Opposition Libraries

Cuts in the for the Province B.C. Archives were Opposition member legislation Thursday

Education Minister Peterson answered be no curtailment. Any cuts were interests of "efficiency"

Additional statements during the year minister said.

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan)—praised given by the the budget should be increased.

"Take one or second-looks," he said.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) said "ill-advised."

Herbert Br (Liberal-Victoria) said the "abused" by the staff to look radio quiz questions

John Squire said the government make provisions for exhibition a special center

Mr. Harding

1958-

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958-

## stion n Ads

ing unemployment in Can-  
Mr. Strachan said,  
d we wonder if there is  
liaison between this gov-  
ent and the Canadian Im-  
tion Department."  
CCF leader supported a  
n from George Gregory  
al-Victoria) that all con-  
ndence since 1952 between  
provincial government and  
ederal minister of citizen-  
and immigration dealing  
British Columbia's policy  
sorbing immigrants be  
in the house.  
e motion was carried  
mously by all sides.

## Ottawa Favoring East—Martin

Health Minister Eric Martin said in legislature Thursday night Ontario has signed an agreement with the federal government on a national hospital insurance program, but B.C. had only just received the draft agreement from Ottawa.

"In fact," he said, "this draft agreement is just a copy of the agreement signed by Ontario. It is obvious that the federal government is not as anxious to have British Columbians benefit under this plan as it is to have Ontario's people participate."

"Don't forget we have a Conservative government in Ottawa," remarked Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan). "Exactly," replied Mr. Martin triumphantly.

**DISCREDIT**  
"It is certainly not to the credit of the federal government that all provinces should not receive this draft agreement at the same time," said Mr. Harding.

Mr. Martin recalled that B.C. was the first province in Canada to signify in 1956 its willingness to enter.  
"We have always co-operated in every possible manner to ensure the smooth and speedy start of the national plan. We have played host to many delegations from the federal government as well as from many provincial governments, all of whom sought information they

knew we could give from our experience."

Mr. Martin said B.C. is "eager, willing and anxious" to sign an agreement with the federal government to expedite implementation of the program.

"However, we can do nothing if the federal government delays in sending us the necessary documents."

It appeared, he added, that some provinces had already received draft agreements and in sufficient time to allow consideration and signing formalities.

"These unexplained and discriminate delays by the federal

government make it exceedingly difficult for us to proceed."

Both government and Opposition members supported the minister's view.

## UBC DENTISTRY SCHOOL PLEGGED GOV'T BACKING

Full government support for a school of dentistry at the University of B.C. was pledged Thursday by Education Minister Leslie Peterson.

The minister said, however, that it is up to the university to decide if and when it wants to set up a dental faculty.

He made the statement after Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan), said seven-eighths of B.C. has inadequate dental services and the province must train more dentists.

## Gov't Backs Down As Delay Asked On Education Vote

The Opposition won one of its rare parliamentary victories in the Legislature Thursday.

The issue arose during consideration of department of education estimates for 1958-59.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan argued that a vote of \$43,658,000 for grants to local school boards should be held over until the government introduces its new amendments to the Public Schools Act.

### BACKS DOWN

The government at first insisted that the vote must be passed, but later backed down in the face of determined protests from the Opposition benches.

Mr. Strachan maintained that a parliamentary principle was at stake in that the House was being asked to approve money for as yet undetermined expenditures.

The legislature should be given a chance to study the proposed changes in school costs financing before passing the vote, he said.

George Gregory (Lib., Victoria) said he was not prepared to vote the government "a blank cheque."

### 80% OF TOTAL

The vote, increased by some \$4,750,000 over last year, represents 80 per cent of the total education department budget, Mr. Strachan pointed out.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson and acting House leader Attorney-General Bonner maintained that the vote must go through.

Mr. Bonner sent out for Premier Bennett, however, and the premier returned to the House to okay the holding of the vote.

## Opposition Protests Library Budget Cut

Cuts in the 1958-59 budgets for the Provincial Library and B.C. Archives were protested by Opposition members in the legislature Thursday.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson answered there would be no curtailment of services. Any cuts were made in the interests of "efficiency," he said.

Additional staff will be added during the year if needed, the minister said.

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) praised the services given by the library, and said the budget should have been increased.

"Take one of your famous second-looks," he urged Premier Bennett.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) said the cuts were "ill-advised."

Herbert Bruch (SC-Esquimalt) said the library is often "abused" by persons who ask the staff to look up answers to radio quiz questions.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said the government should make provision of better facilities for exhibits in the archives as a special centennial project.

Mr. Harding said there are

mountains of material undocumented in the archives because of the lack of staff.

## City University Should Be Part Of UBC—Gregory

In a report of a legislature debate Thursday, the Times erroneously quoted George Gregory (Lib. Victoria) as saying a university in Victoria should be separate from the University of B.C.

Urging the government to get behind the drive to establish a four-year arts college here, Mr. Gregory said the university should be part of the UBC setup.

## Study Pledged On Training More Nurses

Health Minister Eric Martin promised Thursday to look into the possibility of setting up a program to train more practical nurses.

He made the pledge after Mrs. Lois Haggan (CCF, Grand Forks-Greenwood) urged the government to implement legislation passed in 1951 setting up a procedure for certifying practical nurses.

Mrs. Haggan said practical nurses can relieve much of the burden from specialized nurses in the hospitals.

## e—Socred

policy speeches of cabinet  
isters should be on a per-  
ent record, the opposition  
er said. He pointed out that  
rians working on centen-  
year projects had deplored  
fact there was no Hansard  
he past.



FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

After of six weeks of listening to speeches, debates, quarrels and quibbles in the Legislature, you get a terrible yen to get up and go some place where nobody speaks but everybody does something.

How grand it would be to stand on a strip of new road and watch a bulldozer plowing through the mud . . . a crane lifting a ton of granite . . . a building going up or a bridge creeping out over a great waterway.

How wonderful to hear, instead of voices, the singing of the wind as it ruffles the furry tops of giant cedars, the thunder of a mighty river rushing and foaming through rocky canyons.

What a magical escape from words, words, words . . .

No doubt Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi, that much-travelled man, could add something to this, for he stated just recently that "the hardest part of my job is sitting in this House."

As it happened, Mr. Gagliardi was not in the House Thursday night — the ninth night sitting since the session opened — and I wondered, half enviously, if he were flying low over some new highway project or testing the curves somewhere.

\*\*\*  
We have to admit, of course, that under our democratic system, before new projects can be launched, they have to be worked out in a battle of words. And there were plenty of them all day Thursday.

Discussion of estimates for the ministry of education occupied most of the afternoon. Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaskaslokan), John Squire (CCF, Alberni) and Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby), repeatedly prodded Education Minister Leslie Peterson for more detail on expenditures.

"He is like a Reluctant Dragon," smiled Mr. Dowding. "He rouses our curiosity but does not satisfy it."

Mr. Squire said Mr. Peter-

son was "a fine individual" but he should tell them more.

\*\*\*  
Government and Opposition members urged the minister to spend more on the provincial library and archives. Said Mr. Harding:

"There is no room in our archives for all the wonderful material that will form the history of this province."

Tony Gargrave (CCF-Mackenzie), a student at Victoria College, commended the efficiency of the library and said: "Sometimes it does my homework for me."

"Then that is where the money should come from," grinned Premier Bennett looking at Mr. Gargrave.

\*\*\*  
George Gregory (Liberal-Victoria) led off debate on the need for a dental faculty in B.C. to remedy the shortage of dentists. Mr. Harding, speaking of his home town of Silverton, said they had to travel 60 miles to Nelson and back for a half-hour appointment with a dentist.

"For a full dental overhaul you may have to make 20 such trips over a period of months. We need at least 40 new dentists a year to meet the needs of the province."

Alex Matthew, as committee chairman, exercises a firm practised hand in controlling debates on estimates, but could not quite head off an unparliamentary bouquet from CCF leader Bob Strachan.

"I treat the chair with respect," he told Mr. Matthew, "even if I do not respect members of the government opposite."

Amid cries of "Shame" and "withdraw," Mr. Strachan added:

"The government gets exactly what it deserves."

## A-G Says Ontario Drug Racket Hub

Available evidence indicates the province of Ontario may be the centre of the illicit narcotics trade in Canada. Attorney-General Bonner said Wednesday.

Mr. Bonner made the statement in the Legislature in disputing an assertion by George Gregory (Liberal, Victoria) that British Columbia is the centre of the drug traffic.

The matter is "debatable," the attorney-general said.

Mr. Bonner said a resolution proposed by Mr. Gregory calling for a "vigorous campaign" to wipe out the narcotics racket was out of order. He was upheld by Speaker Hugh Shantz.

"Within the laws of the coun-

try, an entirely vigorous campaign is already under way," Mr. Bonner said.

The attorney-general added, however, that a uniform policy should be adopted across the country in respect to drug addiction, in place of the different approaches now used in the various provinces.

In his resolution, Mr. Gregory said that of 745 penitentiary inmates in Canada convicted under the Opium and Narcotic Act or who have a record of drug addiction, 358 are in the British Columbia Penitentiary.

"I don't believe anyone in British Columbia should rest content with the drug addiction problem," the Liberal member

## BILL ON TECHNICIANS

### Committee to Probe Dental Legislation

New government legislation dealing with dental technicians will be examined by a special legislative committee.

A bill paving the way for the technicians to deal directly with the public was introduced in the legislature last week by Health Minister Martin.

The committee study will be

made before the bill is given second reading — approval in principle.

"Everybody who is kicking about it can come in and say so," the minister told reporters Tuesday in explaining why he had referred the matter to the committee. The committee will decide what witnesses to call.

The government bill provides for the establishment of a five-man examining board to recommend to what extent the technicians should be allowed to deal directly with the public in the sale of dentures without going through a dentist as a middle-man.

## CCF Disa Hox

Two CCF mem-  
posite stands in the  
Thursday night o-  
of a six-man Uni-  
investigating team  
the Hoxsey cancer  
to be "useless."

But it was not  
Both Randolph Ha-  
Slocan) who criti-  
port and Tony G-  
kenzie) who  
stressed that they  
ing personal not

Mr. Harding, w-  
Hoxsey clinic at  
last spring, said  
cancer is being c-  
declared the UBC  
make a thorough

Mr. Gargrave.  
UBC team had d-  
at a reasonable  
\$12,000. He label-  
as "a fraud who  
cancer-ridden p-  
same way that  
man puts hope in  
his victims."

## 70 Conv

Mr. Harding  
report for "dis-  
lines" the eight  
were presented to  
defence.

He said the re-  
cases as Hoxs-  
amples" was sa-  
documents from  
up his statement

"I know of  
Columbians who  
stories to tell—  
bers of this Ho-  
before passing  
man."

He told of  
advised by re-  
have his leg  
socket. He we-  
stead and toda-  
as well as any

"I will admit  
I, too, have a d-  
But I would li-  
vestigating do-  
demon these tr-

He said abo-

FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1958

## CCF Members Disagree Over Hoxsey Clinic

Two CCF members took opposite stands in the legislature Thursday night on the report of a six-man University of B.C. investigating team which found the Hoxsey cancer treatments to be "useless."

But it was not a party split. Both Randolph Harding (Kaslo-Slocan) who criticized the report and Tony Gargrave (MacKenzie) who supported it stressed that they were expressing personal not party views.

Mr. Harding, who visited the Hoxsey clinic at Dallas, Texas, last spring, said he believed cancer is being cured there and declared the UBC team did not make a thorough study.

Mr. Gargrave held that the UBC team had done a good job at a reasonable cost" of only \$12,000. He labelled Mr. Hoxsey as "a fraud who gives hope to cancer-ridden people in the same way that a confidence man puts hope in the breasts of his victims."

Said Mr. Harding:

"The UBC report would have been more convincing if they had taken 50 or 60 cases and traced them right through and then backed their findings with documentary evidence."

He said he was not condemning either the B.C. medical profession or the UBC team. The medical profession was doing a good job on cancer treatment in B.C.

"When I urged the government to have the investigation made, I did so in the hope that we might find something good—find some value in this kind of treatment."

Mr. Harding said he talked to more than 70 people at the Dallas Clinic who were convinced Hoxsey had cured them.

He had contacted a "considerable number" of Hoxsey patients in the Vancouver area who had not been approached by the UBC team.

### 70 Convinced Hoxsey Cured Them

Mr. Harding criticized the report for "dismissing in 22 lines" the eight patients who were presented by Hoxsey in his defence.

He said the reference to these cases as Hoxsey's "prize examples" was sarcastic. He had documents from doctors to back up his statements.

"I know of 10 or 12 British Columbians who have fantastic stories to tell—stories the members of this House should hear before passing judgment on this man."

He told of a man who was advised by regular doctors to have his leg taken off at the socket. He went to Hoxsey instead and today he could "walk as well as anyone in this room."

"I will admit," he added, "that I, too, have a doubt in my mind. But I would like some more investigating done before we condemn these treatments."

He said about 90 per cent of

those who go to the Hoxsey Clinic are terminal (hopeless) cases when they go there and therefore could not be cured at home.

"I do not believe Mr. Hoxsey is mercenary. As far as I know, not one person has ever received a bill from the clinic. They are given an opportunity to pay as they are able."

Mr. Harding mentioned several reported cures and said he had notes made by the late Ernest Winch, former CCF member for Burnaby, when he inspected the Hoxsey clinic.

In reply Mr. Gargrave stressed that the medical profession did not pretend to cure cancer in spite of all the research that has been made.

"I say Mr. Hoxsey is a menace. I think it is a crime that people who have cases of incurable cancer can be told they have a chance of recovering at his clinic."

### 'Let Hoxsey Get Medical Degree'

"Let him get a medical degree like other doctors if he wants to practice and make his suggestions in the clinics, hospitals and research laboratories."

"If you read his book 'You Don't Have to Die,' it will make you ill that this man should pretend to treat people for such a dread disease. . ."

Mr. Gargrave said a cancer quack is able to say he cures because there is a small percentage of natural recovery from cancer and he can take the credit for this.

Cancer was really a case of the cells "running wild" so that they no longer performed their natural function. Mr. Hoxsey claimed to be able to counteract this with some kind of chemical therapy in the blood.

"All he really gives his

patients is a suggestion that he may be cured. And that is what a confidence man does when he sells you a gold brick.

"People believe in Hoxsey because they want to believe in him. When a cure for cancer is found by orthodox medical research these arguments will cease to matter."

Mr. Gargrave added that he felt "somewhat angry" because he felt Health Minister Eric Martin should be saying "what I am saying now."

"I have faith in the UBC report," he said.

Mr. Martin said, in the light of the UBC report which had been made at the government's request, he did not think he should take part in any controversy over it.

CCF leader Robert Strachan pointed out that many medical men have relatives who are dying of cancer and it was unlikely they would neglect any possible means of curing them. Mr. Strachan (Vancouver East) appeared to favor Mr. Harding's view that more study of the Hoxsey clinic was desirable.

Mrs. Lydia Arsens, an early advocate of investigating the Hoxsey treatments when she sat in the house as Social Credit member for Victoria, heard the debate from the Speaker's Gallery.

## Ontario et Hub

an entirely vigorous campaign is already under way," Donner said.

attorney-general added, however, that a uniform policy should be adopted across the province in respect to drug addiction, in place of the different approaches now used in the various provinces.

In his resolution, Mr. Gregory stated that of 745 penitentiaries in Canada convicted under the Opium and Narcotic Act, 358 are in the British Columbia Penitentiary.

"I don't believe anyone in British Columbia should rest content with the drug addiction problem," the Liberal member

## Probe ation

de before the bill is given second reading — approval in principle.

"Everybody who is kicking out it can come in and say," the minister told reporters Tuesday in explaining why he had referred the matter to the committee. The committee will decide what witnesses to call.

The government bill provides for the establishment of a five-man examining board to recommend to what extent the technicians should be allowed to deal directly with the public in the sale of dentures without going through a dentist as a middle-man.



## New Mine Law Watered Down

Changes in B.C.'s new mining laws to make a compromise with the demands of industry were introduced in the Legislature Friday by Mines Minister Kiernan.

Under the new amendments to the Mineral Act, the leasing system adopted last year will be continued but on a modified basis to provide more security of tenure.

The leases will be for 21 years, to bring the mining industry in line with government policy on other provincial resources.

In addition, prospectors or mining companies will be able to retain their claims indefinitely as long as they do \$100 worth of work on them each year or pay cash in lieu.

When crown-granting of mineral claims was abolished last spring, the government introduced two types of leases — a five-year retention lease and 21-year production lease.

Now there will be only the one type, a 21-year lease.

This is the new plan: Staking and recording of claims will continue unchanged from the system under Crown grants.

After a claim-holder has put in \$500 work on each claim and completed surveying he may obtain a 21-year lease on his property.

If the property goes into commercial production at any time during the 21 years, the lease is automatically renewable for another 21 years.

(If production is started and then halted for economic reasons, the lease is still renewable.)

If the property is not placed on production, renewal of the

### MINERAL ACT AMENDMENTS NEXT SESSION

A new consolidated B.C. Mineral Act will not be introduced until the next session of the legislature.

This was disclosed by Mines Minister Kiernan Friday after he had brought in amendments to the existing act.

It was hoped to have it ready for the current session, but Mr. Kiernan said a number of "technical problems" will delay completion of the job until next year.

lease is at the discretion of the department of mines.

Department officials explained that unless it was considered to be not in the public interest to renew the lease, the holder would have no trouble in obtaining the renewal.

During the first 10 years of the lease, the property holder must do a total of at least \$4 per acre in work or pay cash in lieu, as well as pay 50 cents per acre annually in lease fees.

(A mining claim is 51 acres.) In the next 11 years he must complete \$6 an acre in work and pay \$1 an acre in fees.

Department officials said the purpose of these clauses is twofold: To protect the province's resources and obtain revenue from them for the treasury.

### Lease Cancelled if Work Not Done

If these work requirements are not met, the lease may be cancelled after a year's notice.

Under the previous scheme, prospectors could hold their recorded claims only under the five-year retention leases, which could be renewed only at the discretion of the minister.

Now they will be able to hang on to them indefinitely by doing \$100 per claim in work annually or paying that amount of cash to the government.

Officials admitted this would allow a company to keep a property for a long period of time without obtaining a lease, but said most firms will prefer to transfer their holdings into the more economically secure lease tenure.

In effect, the new legislation allows the government to retain control over mineral resources which it did not have under Crown grants, while at the same time providing security to the mining industry.

Firms who obtained leases under the present system during the past year will not have their contracts altered unless they request it.

The government has also decided to make Crown grants to claim-holders who staked, recorded and surveyed properties before Feb. 28 of last year in the expectations of gaining a Crown grant.

The new amendments will come into force when the bill is proclaimed at the end of the current legislative session.

## Delinquents' Needs Told to Committee

The need for more varied types of institutions for young offenders was stressed Friday by Magistrate Gordon Scott of Vancouver.

Appearing before the special legislative committee studying the juvenile delinquency problem, Magistrate Scott said diversification of institutions to meet special needs should have top priority.

He suggested that a classification board be established to deal with offenders passing through juvenile courts.

Referring to his past experience as a juvenile court judge, Magistrate Scott said he often had no alternative but to sentence boys to industrial school, even though they needed other types of treatment.

He said offenders from good homes, whom he described as intelligent but the "smart-alec type," needed to spend three months in an institution where stern discipline is emphasized.

The magistrate said young offenders should not be put

back on probation for repeated offences, except for minor infractions. Such practice makes a "joke" of probation, he said.

Magistrate Scott appeared before the committee as head of the B.C. Youth Council.

A second brief from the Community Chest and Council of Greater Vancouver urged a royal commission study of juvenile delinquency and more coordination between government departments and local agencies dealing with youth services.

Next week, three students from a Vancouver high school will appear before the committee to give their views on today's young generation.

# Black On 'P

## CCF Urg Health

Implementation of a complete health insurance plan in B.C. with or without federal participation, was urged in the legislature Friday by the CCF.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the government should proclaim an act passed by the provincial legislature in 1936 providing for a health plan. "You can do it now with the additional money you are going to get from the federal government under the hospital insurance plan," he said.

### POLITICS IN 1936

Premier Bennett retorted that the former Liberal provincial government was "playing politics" when it passed the 1936 bill.

The premier also railed at the present federal government for not giving B.C. a "fair share" of its tax revenues.

If the province kept its own income and corporation tax instead of renting them to the federal government it could run a health plan on its own, said.

The premier said he was little alarmed at the present government holding hands much with the provinces of Ontario and Quebec at the expense of B.C.

Health Minister Eric Macdonald defended the progress made by the government in the health care field, and accused the federal government of "dragging its feet" on the new national plan.

### B.C. THE GUIDE

B.C. is ahead of all other provinces with its hospital insurance scheme, the minister said, and has been acting as a guide to the federal government and other provinces.

## Goldstream Park Work Under Way

The provincial government has begun work on Goldstream Park.

Recreation Minister Earle Westwood announced Friday that a recreation survey of the site has been completed and development work is under way.

Plans call for construction of a 100-unit campsite to be ready for use next summer.

The minister said a large picnic ground is also planned at a later date.

The campsite will be situated on the higher reaches of Goldstream River, between Golden Gate Road and the E & N Railway track.

In making the announcement, Mr. Westwood thanked the city of Victoria for its "interest and foresight" in turning the park over to the government.

The 700-acre site will be operated as a "Class A" park.

The provincial parks branch agreed to take it over after completing a recreational survey of the area.

## Bid Approved On Hospital

The provincial government Friday approved the award of a \$2,500,000 contract for construction of a new 113-bed hospital at Kitimat.

Successful bidder was Bennett & White Construction Co. of Vancouver. The job will take two years to complete.

# Black Raps Merchants On 'Personal Attack'

## Outburst Over Store Closing Hours

A merchant group's brief flailed the government for proposing to give municipalities jurisdiction over store-closing hours and drew an angry denunciation from Municipal Affairs Minister Wesley Black this morning that it included a personal attack on himself.

Christopher Boulton, of Vancouver, manager of the B.C. division of the Retail Merchants' Association of Canada, claimed he spoke for "nine out of 10" independent merchants in the province.

The brief, presented today to a House committee considering proposed amendments to the Municipal Act, said the merchants "are amazed at the apparent determination of the provincial government, which for other reasons is very much in need of friends, to antagonize every independent retailer in this province."

### FEW AMENDMENTS

The association wants the present store-closing regulations maintained with control vested in the provincial government, Mr. Boulton said. Only a few slight amendments are desired by merchants, including exemption of "corner groceries" from closing regulations.

Mr. Boulton said the minister had privately agreed a definition of a corner grocery as a small store selling groceries, confectionery, tobacco and magazines run by a husband and wife with possibly one employee was "reasonable and acceptable."

"I certainly did not," Mr. Black retorted. "I agreed that it might be reasonable but not that it was acceptable."

Mr. Black then read a paragraph of the brief that Mr. Boulton had omitted from his verbal presentation.

It accused the minister or the committee of having allowed two delegations to present their views prior to today's meeting after "he informed us that he was constitutionally unable to accede" to an association request for an advance private hearing.

"Who are they?" Mr. Black demanded.

## CCF Urges Complete Health Insurance

Implementation of a complete health insurance plan in B.C., with or without federal participation, was urged in the legislature Friday by the CCF.

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the government should proclaim an act passed by the provincial legislature in 1936 providing for a health plan.

"You can do it now with the additional money you are going to get from the federal government under the hospital insurance plan," he said.

### 'POLITICS' IN 1936

Premier Bennett retorted that the former Liberal provincial government was "playing politics" when it passed the 1936 bill.

The premier also railed at the present federal government for not giving B.C. a "fair share" of its tax revenues.

If the province kept its own income and corporation taxes instead of renting them to the federal government it could run a health plan on its own, he said.

The premier said he was "a little alarmed at the present government holding hands too much with the provinces of Ontario and Quebec at the expense of B.C."

Health Minister Eric Martin defended the progress made by the government in the health care field, and accused the federal government of "dragging its feet" on the new national plan.

### B.C. THE GUIDE

B.C. is ahead of all other provinces with its hospital insurance scheme, the minister said, and has been acting as a guide to the federal government and other provinces.

"This government has proceeded at the fastest pace possible," he said.

He added that the province of Ontario is "headed for real trouble" with its newly-adopted plan because it is based on the premium-system which B.C. abolished in 1954.

The minister said 51 per cent of all British Columbians are now protected under private medical care plans.

The government cannot plan ahead on further coverage until it knows the details of the federal plan, he said. His department is keeping in touch with B.C. doctors on proposed changes, including free diagnostic services, Mr. Martin said.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said the fact that 51 per cent

of the population belong to private schemes proves the public wants complete health insurance.

"It will come whether you like it or not," Mr. Squire told the government.

Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) said the government now has the opportunity to do some trail-blazing in Canada by instituting a health insurance program.

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) said the government should at least start by providing free dental care for school children.

Mr. Strachan said the government should broaden its health coverage to use the more than \$12,500,000 it will get from the federal government for hospital insurance in the coming year.

### CAR DEALERS

Mr. Boulton said the two groups represented automobile dealers and a mail-order house.

"That is false," Mr. Black said. "I might inform you that since I last saw you I've been in bed."

"That paragraph is a personal attack on me, for crying out loud," Mr. Black stormed. "Any personal animosity towards me should be struck out."

Marshall Gordon, representing the Victoria Six-Day Shopping Week Committee, urged a change in the proposed amendments to stipulate that stores could remain open six days a week, including late Friday night, as at present.

He said local options would enable municipal councils to cut this time down if it was desirable in some communities. The longer shopping week would increase employment without resulting in employees working longer hours.

Bruce Humber, representing an opposing group in the city, asked for the proposed amendment of a 5½-day shopping week to be confirmed. He said independent merchants did not wish to have staggered hours for employees, which would be necessary under a six-day week.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

The ghost of Premier Pattullo, former Liberal premier of British Columbia, must have been hovering over the House Friday when Premier Bennett declared:

"If this province kept its own income and corporation taxes instead of renting them to the federal government we could run a health care plan on our own."

It so happens I was in this legislature in the early days of the war when Mr. Pattullo made a series of ringing speeches against the war-time measure of handing over provincial income taxes to Ottawa.

"If we are not careful," he warned, "they will drag our living standards down to those of Quebec . . ."

It will be recalled that Mr. Pattullo refused to join the Liberal-Conservative coalition and continued to sit in the House as Independent Liberal member for Prince Rupert.

He never gave an inch on the income tax question.

On Friday Premier Bennett indirectly revived the issue by stating that the federal government is not giving B.C. a fair share of its tax revenues.

"I am terribly disappointed in the Diefenbaker government," he said. "I thought they would see beyond the mountains, but they have dealt with us more severely than the previous Liberal administration."

The premier mentioned the signing of hospital insurance agreement between Ottawa and Ontario—and his indignation mounted to the point where we seemed to see Mr. Ottawa skipping hand in hand with Miss Ontario down a flower-strewn political road.

Mr. Bennett insisted his views were above party politics or personal or departmental friendships. He was concerned only with British Columbia's rights.

Both sides of the House applauded him.

Opposition attacks on the government have been so vigorous this session that estimates for the various departments have taken much longer to get through.

The CCF opponents seem to be getting more and more adept in the art of digging for answers. One vote in estimates for the health and welfare department was held up almost two hours by persistent demands for more information.

Otherwise, the House was in excellent humor—perhaps because it was Friday and the end of a tiresome night-sitting week.

When John Squire (CCF, Alberni) accused the government of being "backward" in its approach to national health, Health Minister Eric Martin replied:

"There is Rip Van Winkle himself!"

According to Mr. Martin, "Rip Van Winkle" John Squire had been asleep so long he did not know what the government had done.

He recalled how the government had given "unlimited" advice on hospital insurance to the federal government and other provincial governments.

And this prompted Tom Uphill, the 83-year-old Fernie member, to inquire:

"Do you charge for this advice?"

"No," answered Mr. Martin, "we spend time and money on it."

Mr. Martin spoke of B.C.'s health services as "a bottomless hole" that swallowed up money as fast as it was poured in.

He paid tribute to former health ministers, especially Dr. Harold Weir, who felt as he did about the health needs of the province.

"We understand what you mean but you don't need to go back to the time of Moses to prove it," said Arthur Turner, the CCF member for Vancouver East.

"Where were your ancestors at the time of Moses?" scoffed Mr. Martin. "You may think they were in the bullrushes but my guess is they were still swinging from the trees."

In tones of high oratory, Mr. Martin declared the people of British Columbia would get a health scheme that would protect them against high costs without interfering with their freedom.

"Speech No. 3 B," observed Tony Gargrave (CCF-Mackenzie).

Just 25 years ago, in March 1933, Tom Uphill pleaded with the B.C. government to take over the coal mines at Fernie owned by the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and operate them as a public asset.

The government of that day turned down his suggestion because, they said, no government could control markets and coal was "declining in the face of fuel oil competition."

Today 83-year-old Mr. Uphill is pleading for help for miners displaced by the closing of the Crow's Nest coal mine because the railways are using diesel oil.

"History has repeated itself and the problem in Fernie today is as real as it was in 1933," says the oldest member of the legislature.

## COURTH

### Just

Victoria's farm can accommodate and one chief justice rooms, Public W. N. Chant told legislature Friday.

This means there are seven or more in the courthouse happens, two just share the same

Mr. Chant questions tabled today, the Liberal Victoria, who courthouse his the legislature.

Mr. Gregory are any court older than the house.

"Yes," answered "The Victoria built in 1888, Westminster built in 1871."

Asked if the government-owned than Victoria

SATURDAY, MARCH 8,

## Social Welfare Changes To Ease Worker's Burden

Proposed changes in administration of social allowance payments to lighten the burden on social workers were announced in the legislature Friday by Health Minister Eric Martin.

The minister said social workers no longer will be required to trace a recipient's history to establish residence in one municipality for at least a full year.

At present this is done to find which municipality is responsible for sharing in the allowance payment.

At its convention in Nelson last fall, the Union of B.C. Municipalities recommended that the government do away with this cumbersome method and bill the municipalities on a straight per capita basis.

Mr. Martin said the provincial

deputy minister of welfare will head a committee to bring about implementation of the new plan "at the earliest possible time."

"The result of such a move

will be to liberate the time of the social workers in the field," the minister said, "in order that they will be able to spend more time on case work, rehabilitation and counselling services."

### COURTHOUSE NOT OLDEST

## Justices Share Room

Victoria's famous courthouse can accommodate five justices and one chief justice in separate rooms, Public Works Minister W. N. Chant told the B.C. legislature Friday.

This means that when there are seven or more justices in the courthouse, as sometimes happens, two justices have to share the same room.

Mr. Chant was answering questions tabled by George Gregory, the Liberal member for Victoria, who has made the courthouse his special hobby in the legislature.

Mr. Gregory asked if there are any courthouses in B.C. older than the Victoria courthouse.

"Yes," answered Mr. Chant. "The Victoria courthouse was built in 1888, whereas the New Westminster courthouse was built in 1871."

Asked if there were any government-owned buildings older than Victoria courthouse and

still in use, Mr. Chant replied: "Yes—the New Westminster Land Registry Office, built in 1871."

## Spending to Save Money

MR. BERT PRICE'S CRITICISM of British Columbia prison expenditures is forthright and explicit. He considers them too high, believes \$1,000,000 should be cut from them and used to better purposes elsewhere. Moreover, he thinks the prisoners should be forced to do more work.

Mr. Price, it should be said, is not alone in his opinions. But he appears to have views at wide variance with those of men who have studied the subject from a professional point of view.

He seems to be asking why such sums should be spent on people who have been found guilty of offences while many who have not, lack amenities which could be supplied by prison economies.

If that is his position, it can be generally appreciated.

On the other hand, there are two important factors which Mr. Price probably overlooks.

If our prison system is to be a system of correction—and correction should be given consideration equal at least to punishment—it cannot escape high cost. Merely working all prisoners harder, or working them if they do not work now, is not the complete answer to the problem of restoring them to citizenship.

The other consideration which may escape him lies in the economic advantages of rehabilitating the inmate. If the convicted person merely serves his term and then is released unimproved to prey again on society, the cost to society both in direct material losses attributed to his crimes and in legal processes—apprehension, trial and mainte-

nance upon conviction—remains excessive.

Even the reclamation of a few convicted persons is an economic gain in the long run, since once removed from crime and restored to normal productive life they are no longer a drain on public and private funds.

Modern prison methods help to increase the number who are reclaimed. Current statistics indicate that 70 per cent of those in the Young Offenders Unit in Oakalla are rehabilitated. The percentage is even higher among the preferred class assigned to Borstal.

In other parts of the jail, nearly half of the prisoners are rehabilitated.

This is a positive, direct financial gain. But successful rehabilitation is more immediately expensive than close confinement combined with the labor camp.

It is true that the prison system at present makes some provision for labor. Selected inmates for some time have been funneled into work camps in forestry and road development—a process, incidentally, which is part of the rehabilitation program. That type of treatment alone is not enough. Nor is it suitable in all cases.

If Mr. Price can point to a system of reduced expenditure and increased labor for prisoners which will work as a corrective, then he has a valuable contribution to make to improvement of the penal system. If, on the other hand, he is merely counselling a return to former practices that date back to the chain-gang, he is making no contribution at all.



MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1958

## Control Asked On Hours Of Garages

The 1,200-member Automotive Retailers' Association of B.C. Saturday threw its support behind regulation of service station hours.

The association presented a brief to a special legislative committee studying proposed amendments to the Municipal Act. It was opposed by six oil companies and the Greater Vancouver Tourist Association.

The ARABC brief said government regulation "could well be a major step forward in improving the working conditions for garage and service station operators."

The oil companies countered that unregulated hours were needed to meet the needs of motorists for gasoline service.

### LIABILITY

The tourist association said the regulations "would be a decided liability to our tourist industry and as a result will hinder the economic prosperity of the province."

The proposed amendments would give municipalities power to regulate service station hours. They would allow extension of the 6 p.m. closing by one hour, October to May. A 9 p.m. closing June to September would be permissible. Another amendment would allow municipalities to set up a rotation system for late closing.

## Working Wife Called Threat To Home Life

Working wives can lead to the break-up of a home, the Provincial Council of Women said in a supplementary brief today to the legislative committee inquiry into unemployment.

"It is commendable that a wife or mother takes employment to help out," the council said, "but that also may lead to serious difficulties."

"She may so enjoy the freedom and security of earning her own salary, that she may be loathe to give up the work when it is no longer necessary for her to work."

The brief said that a wife's attitude to her husband's inability to secure work will lessen her affection and respect for him.

This is especially so if she is working with men who are successful.

"This may lead to a broken home."

In a second brief to the labor committee today, the International Railway Brotherhood called for a federal-provincial conference on unemployment, with representatives of municipalities, business and labor sitting in.

## Britannia Flailed by

Operators of the Britannia mine denounced by Labor Minister I. G. Macdonald at a legislative committee hearing today the mine shutdown.

Mr. Wicks, a member of the committee, said at the first hearing today the company had "not taken seriously" the request of the committee for a submission.

It was indicated the committee may decide to subpoena officials of the parent Howe Sound Mining Co. who can answer questions on the company's financial position.

The company was represented at the committee hearing today by A. G. Kirkland, general manager of mines for the Howe Sound Co. and Vancouver lawyer D. N. Hossie.

### NO ANSWER GIVEN

When chairman Bert Price (S.C. Vancouver-Burrard) asked Mr. Kirkland whether the company was prepared to negotiate further with the mine-mill union in an effort to keep the mine going, he said he was primarily a technical man and could not answer the question.

"Can you get someone here who can?" Mr. Price asked. "We're not playing. We want to know the answers to these questions."

Mr. Wicks said the company should have been represented by "someone with authority."

Cedric Cox (C.C.F. Burnaby) asked Mr. Kirkland whether the company would file with the committee its balance sheet for the last four months.

Mr. Kirkland said that would be up to the board of directors to decide.

Mr. Kirkland said the mine closure was forced by continuing drops in the world price of copper.

It was "impractical" to open

## Sloan's Advice On Forestry Tax Urged by Gregory

George Gregory (Lib. Victoria) said in the legislative assembly Monday the government should have adopted the recommendation of the former Chief Justice Hon. Gordon Sloan, to eliminate the 1 per cent tax on forest lands.

In difficult times such as these the government should try to encourage the forestry industry by reducing taxes, Gregory said.

Mr. Gregory also asked the Forestry Minister what the government intended to do about Mr. Sloan's recommendation in his royal commission report that the government buy back the E & N forest lands.

The Liberal member said during the second reading of the bill to amend the Forestry Act that he would like to see the government adopt some of the recommendations of the royal commission. Debate was adjourned until the minister could reply.

## Britannia Owners Flailed by Wicks

Operators of the Britannia Copper Mine were denounced by Labor Minister Lyle Wicks today for their attitude toward a legislative labor committee inquiry into the mine shutdown.

Mr. Wicks, a member of the committee, said at the first hearing today the company had "not taken seriously" the request of the committee for a submission.

It was indicated the committee may decide to subpoena officials of the parent Howe Sound Mining Co. who can answer questions on the company's financial position.

The company was represented at the committee hearing today by A. G. Kirkland, general manager of mines for the Howe Sound Co. and Vancouver lawyer D. N. Hossie.

### NO ANSWER GIVEN

When chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard) asked Mr. Kirkland whether the company was prepared to negotiate further with the mine-mill union in an effort to keep the mine going, he said he was primarily a technical man and could not answer the question.

"Can you get someone here who can?" Mr. Price asked. "We're not playing. We want to know the answers to these questions."

Mr. Wicks said the company should have been represented by "someone with authority."

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) asked Mr. Kirkland whether the company would file with the committee its balance sheet for the last four months.

Mr. Kirkland said that would be up to the board of directors to decide.

Mr. Kirkland said the mine closure was forced by continuing drops in the world price of copper.

It was "impractical" to operate the mine even with government assistance, he said.

"The outlook for copper is not encouraging," Mr. Kirkland said.

"The closure at Britannia was most unusual and regrettable as far as Britannia was concerned, but was not unusual as far as the base metal industry is concerned," he said.

Mr. Kirkland said he believed the mine would be reopened at some time in the future when copper prices improve.

The union brief to the committee proposed that the government take over operation of the mine.

"We believe that it can be done profitably at the present price of copper," the union said.

"We would therefore ask the provincial government to join with the federal government in reopening this mine, and operating it either for their own account or until such time as the private operators are prepared to re-enter the enterprise on a more reasonable basis."

## Bill Introduced In Legislature On Naturopaths

A bill setting out the legal status of naturopaths was introduced in the legislature Monday by Health Minister Eric Martin.

Government officials said a recent court decision had placed doubt on the legality of some of the functions performed by naturopaths.

The new legislation broadens these functions to include the administering of first aid treatment and taking of blood samples for anemia.

The amendments abolish the inoperative board of supervision and switches jurisdiction over naturopaths from the provincial secretary's department to the department of health and welfare.

Control now will be vested in the Board of Naturopathic Physicians and an examining board appointed by the government from members of the Naturopath's Association.

## Sloan's Advice On Forestry Tax Urged by Gregory

George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria) said in the legislature Monday the government should have adopted the recommendation of the former Chief Justice, Hon. Gordon Sloan, to eliminate the 1 per cent tax on forest lands.

In difficult times such as these the government should try to encourage the forest industry by reducing taxes, Mr. Gregory said.

Mr. Gregory also asked Lands and Forests Minister Williston what the government intended to do about Mr. Sloan's recommendation in his royal commission report that the government buy back the E & N lands.

The Liberal member spoke during the second reading of a bill to amend the Forest Act by adopting some of the commissioner's recommendations. Debate was adjourned before the minister could reply.

## Municipal Loans Fund Rejected

The provincial government should establish a special revolving fund to provide loans directly to municipalities, CCF member Gordon Dowding said in the legislature Monday.

Mr. Dowding said the government's new measure to guarantee municipal borrowings for sewer and water works does not go far enough.

The municipalities will still have to borrow from New York bond dealers at high interest rates, he said.

The government should set aside three or four million dollars out of its surpluses to build up the fund. Only charge to the municipalities who borrow

from it would be the cost of administering the fund.

Municipal tax revenue from these work projects would replenish the fund.

### NOT FAR ENOUGH

Later during the debate on second reading of the bill to provide the guarantees, Premier Bennett said the bill "doesn't go as far as the government would like."

It was up to the federal government to accept more responsibility in the field of municipal financing, the premier said.

Mr. Bennett said B.C. had asked the former Liberal government to make funds available to municipalities at 2 per cent, with provincial guarantees, but had been turned down.

The premier also said he was opposed to the revolving fund proposed by Mr. Dowding.

## Island Roads Budget Increased \$199,000

Maintenance expenditures on Vancouver Island roads will be increased by \$199,000, from \$758,000 to \$957,000, Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi announced in the legislature Monday night.

Mr. Gaglardi revealed that the government plans to spend \$6,612,000 in various electoral districts of the province during the coming year compared with the \$5,200,000 he announced in the budget debate last month.

"The revised estimates will bring this year's expenditures up to the level of last year," Mr. Gaglardi said.

Totals to be spent on Vancouver Island roads are:

Alberni, \$121,000; Comox, \$270,000; Cowichan-Newcastle, \$160,000; Esquimalt, \$166,000; Nanaimo and the Islands, \$152,000; Saanich, \$98,000.

Earlier, George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria) said Vancouver Island was getting "the short end of the stick" on highway construction work.

"We have about 10 per cent of the highways in B.C. and about 17.8 per cent of the vehicles registered in the province," he said.

"Why are we getting less than 10 per cent of the highways?" he asked.

Mr. Gaglardi replied that Vancouver Island had received a better share of new highways under Social Credit than under any previous government.

"We have been most fair in our allocation to Vancouver Island," he said.

## Island to Lower Mainland Bridge or Tunnel 'to Come'

Construction of a bridge or tunnel between Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland was proposed in the legislature Monday by Herbert Bruch, Social Credit member for Esquimalt.

Mr. Bruch urged Highways Minister Gaglardi to consider the idea seriously.

"It's not far-fetched," he said. "And we wouldn't mind paying tolls."

Mr. Gaglardi said later outside the House that the project is "definitely a possibility, but not at this time."

"One day it will be built," the minister said, "but it is not the time yet."

## Crown Company

Creation of a Crown company to operate concessions in provincial parks was proposed in the legislature Monday by Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard).

Revenue from the concessions could be used to finance other park developments, Mr. Price said.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Every man loves a railroad. It starts in the nursery with a clockwork engine running over tin rails, or a stair rod pushed through a hole in a cardboard box. And to the end of his days the male animal never quite loses his love for the iron road.

So it is that whenever the Pacific Great Eastern Railway comes up in the legislature, good humor prevails on every side and most members look 10 years younger.

This is particularly true of Premier Bennett as president of the PGE, but it extends also to the Opposition.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan raised a critical eyebrow over the government's new bill to raise the borrowing power of the railway from \$30,000,000 to \$110,000,000. But he did not

hesitate to say that the CCF is 100 per cent in favor of its development.

He recalled taking a trip on the PGE and enjoying it.

"Did you get a pass?" asked Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi.

"Yes," smiled Mr. Strachan, "for some things but not, of course, for everything. I am looking forward to being a guest when the new line into the Peace River Country is opened later this year."

### Liberals Ran Election on PGE—Bennett

Gordon Dowling (CCF, Burnaby) also questioned the extra \$30,000,000 to be borrowed for the PGE.

And then it was Premier Bennett's turn. Fairly beaming on everyone, he said the CCF, the Liberals and the Conservatives were all in favor of the PGE—and the Liberals ran an election on it 'way back in the 'twenties.

"The Conservatives started it and left it in an awful mess. And when the Liberals got through it was in a still worse mess."

"The CCF haven't made a mess of it, then," remarked Mr. Dowling.

"My friend," answered the Premier, still smiling, "the CCF will always be without blemish in this regard, for it never will be the government of this province."

Warning to his favorite topic (or rather topics), Mr. Bennett said the government based its whole future on the PGE.

### Unexpected Tribute Paid Hon. C. D. Howe

This kind of bon homie disappeared early this morning when the House labored painfully through the estimates of Highways Minister Gaglardi, who seemed to be a favorite target for the CCF.

Mr. Gaglardi got so tired of being questioned on the activities of his department that towards 1 a.m. he kept his seat while answering. And this led George Gregory (Liberal, Victoria) to remark:

"If the minister is too tired to stand up we had better go home."

Leaping out of his chair, Mr. Gaglardi retorted:

"I'll stand up for 15 hours if necessary."

★ ★ ★

An unexpected tribute to

"As much as anything, our railway has proved this is the government that gets things done. If you don't buy your wife a dress, you can only be blamed for not buying it. But if you buy the wrong dress you can be blamed for many things."

Mr. Dowling, in the manner of a crown prosecutor whose witness is wandering from the point, asked:

"What about this extra money you are borrowing?"

The premier smiled indulgently, as if he didn't mind being dragged down to such sordid matters. Railways, he pointed out, needed equipment—box cars, diesel engines, etcetera—and the PGE was no exception.

"The main thing," he said, "is that the railway is now being operated on a sound financial basis. And that is one of the reasons the people will keep this government on its payroll for a long time to come."

Hon. C. D. Howe as the "strong man" of the former Liberal government of Canada was paid by Premier Bennett.

"Canada is the poorer because he is not in the government today," Mr. Bennett said. "If they had listened to him a year before they would still have been in power."

"But as soon as the Liberal government found Mr. Howe was right and the Bank of Canada was wrong, they called a general election."

"And when Mr. Diefenbaker found that out, he ducked, too, and called an election without even presenting a budget."

## Gaglardi Should Stay Here More Strachan Advises

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said Monday night Highways Minister Gaglardi should spend more time in his Victoria office.

In the 1956-57 year the minister was away more than 185 days, Mr. Strachan said.

"It's time we had a full-time minister of highways in this province who is available in his office more than the present minister has been."

Mr. Gaglardi maintained that by his extensive travelling around the province he has been able to sharply reduce the administrative costs of his department.

The minister said that on his weekend trips to Kamloops to preach in his church, he spends Saturday in his regional office there meeting with "20 or 30 people" from all parts of the province on highways business.

## NON-RESIDENT 'DEFECTIVES' PROVIDED FOR

Legislation providing for non-resident admissions to Woodlands School for defective children was approved in principle by the legislature Monday.

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black said the legislation will allow the parents of mentally defective children to keep them at home but send them to Woodlands on a day-school basis.

The new bill also provides for the admission of adult patients to provincial training schools for mental defectives for a 30-day period.

## TOLL BRIDGES LOANS SCORED

Borrowing by the provincial government to finance the construction of toll bridges was criticized in the legislature Monday by Tony Gargrave (CCF, Mackenzie).

The bridges could be built from consolidated revenue through allocation of the gasoline tax, Mr. Gargrave said.

## Gaglardi's 'Inconvenience' Signs Spark Angry Words

Those "Sorry for the Inconvenience" signs erected by Highways Minister P. A. Gaglardi came under fire in the Legislature early today. "They have made this province a laughing stock," complained Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook).

Leaping angrily to his feet, Mr. Gaglardi retorted:

"Those signs have been copied all over the United States and as far away as Hawaii. Why should you object to them?"

# Revise Highe

By PETE MURRAY

A new Public Schools Act containing revisions in B.C. education finance formula was introduced at a given first reading in Legislature Tuesday.

The revisions provide higher provincial government grants to school districts.

The increases amount to \$4,750,000 in the current year and will be more in succeeding years for both operating and capital costs.

The basic teacher-salary schedule will be revised to bring it in line with average salaries paid in 1957.

## Ban on Blacklisting

Other main points in the 1. "Blacklisting" of school districts by teachers outlawed

# SCHOOL FORMUL

The revised school's financial formula makes no change in fundamental principles of the Cameron Formula.

Officials of the department of education said this formula has proved to be the method of ensuring equity between school districts with varying tax resources.

The Cameron Formula, based on the assumption of increases in the costs of education should be shared equally between the provincial government and the school districts.

## BASIS OF 1955

Under the formula, the government has been making operating costs grant to school districts based on apportionments in 1955.

Approved costs above the level were shared 75 per cent by the government and 25 per cent by the school districts.

In the revised formula, the "base year" of 1955 is eliminated and the provincial government bears the cost of approved operating expenses beyond that met by local taxes.

Local contribution under the present formula is the equivalent of seven mills in rural areas and 10 mills in municipalities.

The revised formula changes these figures to nine and 12 mills.

# Revised School Act Offers Higher Provincial Grants

By PETE MURRAY

A new Public Schools Act containing revisions in the B.C. education finance formula was introduced and given first reading in the Legislature Tuesday.

The revisions provide for higher provincial government grants to school districts.

The increases amount to some \$4,750,000 in the current year and will be more in succeeding years for both operating and capital costs.

The basic teacher-salary schedule will be revised to bring it in line with average salaries paid in 1957.

## Ban on Blacklisting

Other main points in the Act: 1. "Blacklisting" of school districts by teachers outlawed;

2. School boards are compelled to negotiate with teachers before going to arbitration on salaries;

3. New provisions are made for teachers appealing their dismissal, suspension or transfer by a school board;

4. School district poll taxes are eliminated;

5. Boards are given jurisdiction over the dress of students at schools in their district;

6. New authority is given to boards to prohibit a student of 15 or over from attending school if he "fails to apply himself to his studies or fails to comply with the rules and regulations of the school."

7. Revenue-producing property held by school boards is made subject to municipal taxation if it is not used for school purposes or as a teachers' residence.

## First Since 1872

The act, which will not become law until approved by the legislature and signed by the lieutenant-governor at the end of the session, is the first new Public Schools Act since 1872.

Department officials, who described existing schools legislation as a "patchwork quilt," have been working on the act for the past 18 months.

They say the revised finance formula should result in a decrease in the mill rate in some 35 of the province's 102 school districts.

In the districts where the mill rate will have to be increased this year to meet rising education costs, the increase should not be more than two mills.

Without the revised formula, the increase in some districts would have been as much as five or 10 mills, a government spokesman said.

## Cost System Stands

Beyond the finance formula revisions, there is no change in the government's system for determining what constitute "approved" costs.

(Each year the school districts must submit their budgets to the education department for approval, which government officials say is their only way to control costs.)

Under the revised formula for sharing school operating costs, the "base year" of 1955 in determining approved costs is eliminated.

Officials said the use of a "base year" didn't take into account the ability of a school district to pay.

The present grant schedule for government contribution toward the cost of teachers' salaries was introduced in 1955, based on average salaries in 1954.

## Only 2 Districts

School inspectors in the future will be known as "district superintendents of schools."

Under the present act there are four types of school districts—rural, municipal, large rural, and large municipal. Now there will be only two—municipal and rural.

The franchise for voting on school by-laws and election of boards is extended to bring the act in line with the new Municipal Act of last year which established new classes of electors.

Upon the advice of the school medical officer, school boards may now require teachers or other employees to undergo a medical or mental examination.

If the physical, mental or emotional health of the employee is certified to be liable to be injurious to the pupils, the board must remove him from the school.

When a teacher appeals his dismissal for suspension by a board, the dispute may now be referred by the cabinet to a

three-member investigating committee.

Previously these disputes were usually referred directly by the cabinet to a board of reference.

The board of reference hearings will still be held if the investigating committee is unable to reach a solution.

# SCHOOL FINANCING FORMULA TO STAND

The revised school's financing formula makes no change in the fundamental principles of the Cameron Formula.

Officials of the department of education said this formula has proved to be the best method of ensuring equity between school districts with varying tax resources.

The Cameron Formula was based on the assumption that increases in the costs of education should be shared equally by the provincial government and the school districts.

## BASIS OF 1955

Under the formula, the government has been making an operating costs grant to school districts based on approved costs in 1955.

Approved costs above that level were shared 75 per cent by the government and 25 per cent by the school district.

In the revised formula, the "base year" of 1955 is eliminated and the provincial government bears the cost of all approved operating expenses beyond that met by local taxation.

Local contribution under the present formula is the product of seven mills in rural areas and 10 mills in municipalities.

The revised formula raises these figures to nine mills and 12 mills.

However, the mill rate for school purposes in all districts is already at least 12 mills, and this change will not result in higher local mill rates.

## INJUSTICE BARRED

School districts must meet all costs above those approved by the education department except for special supplementary grants which may be made where "great public inconvenience or public hardship or grave injustice to taxpayers" would result.

Department officials say there is more "flexibility" in the provision for supplementary grants in the new act.

Capital costs grants to school boards are also revised under the new act.

Under the present system, capital grants are shared 50-50 by the government and school districts to a local cost of 3 mills, and 75-25 beyond that point.

The new legislation provides for a 50-50 sharing to a local cost of 3 mills, a 75-25 sharing to an additional cost of 1½ mills and 90-10 sharing above 4½ mills of local cost.

Officials said this change will provide greater assistance to "poor" districts and increase government grants substantially in future years.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

However much they attack the B.C. government, Opposition members always have a good word for Ray Williston, the former education minister, who now carries the burden of the lands and forestry portfolio.

The department was under fire all Tuesday afternoon but Opposition spokesmen generally had kind words for Mr. Williston.

"He always has a firm grasp of whatever department he is running," commented John Squire (CCF, Alberni). "And he is able to answer questions without having a battery of experts around him."

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) said he could not understand why the government should hire a forestry adviser (former chief justice Gordon Sloan) at a salary of \$50,000 a year when it had such competent administrators as Mr. Williston.

He also mentioned deputy minister Dr. C. D. Orchard and John Fisher, financial adviser to the government, in his argument that the disparity between their salaries and "the exorbitant sum" paid to Mr. Sloan was too great.

Mr. Nimsick said the government had never really explained why it created a precedent in hiring Mr. Sloan as forestry adviser, though no one doubted Mr. Sloan's ability and integrity.

"I cannot see how this appointment can be justified when the government is cutting down the forest service instead of increasing it, as Mr. Sloan recommended in his report on the forests," Mr. Nimsick said.

CCF leader Robert Strachan is not impressed by the government's move to get rid of the term "forest management licence" by calling it a tree farm licence.

"This is just an attempt to deodorize forest management licences without removing the cause of the smell, which is monopolistic control of our forest resources," he said.

"It is generally agreed that forest management licences in perpetuity are wrong. The government is now trying to make them only half wrong or quarter wrong."

Attorney-General Robert Bonner is more or less in charge of government ranks today in the absence of Premier Bennett.

The premier is flying north to the new PGE town of Chetwynd, named after the late Ralph Chetwynd, to conduct ceremonies marking the laying of track to the junction from which lines will fork to Dawson Creek and Fort St. John.

He is flying to Fort St. John and will travel 65 miles by road to the new town and back.

"This is a milestone in the development of the Pacific



HON. RAY WILLISTON

Great Eastern Railway," he said, "and I feel justified in taking time off from the session to attend the ceremonies."

The premier intimated that he may be back in Victoria in time for a sitting of the legislature tonight.

While most members look tired after a gruelling session, the premier still bubbles with energy and enthusiasm.

Blair Fraser, Ottawa editor of Maclean's Magazine, is visiting the House to gather material on the Social Credit government for a special B.C. centennial edition to be published next May.

## WAIT AND SEE ATTITUDE

# Tax Aid Doubtful From School Act

Proposed revisions to the provincial-municipal education cost-sharing formula will be of doubtful value in reducing local tax rates, district officials said today.

First reaction is that the changes will increase grants by the province, but also boost, by two mills, the municipal contribution.

The proposed new Public Schools Act, introduced in the legislature Tuesday, increases the grant the province pays toward teacher salaries. The new grants will be based on the average salary paid teachers throughout B.C. in 1957.

As Victoria's salary scale was under the average, it is anticipated more provincial aid will accrue to Greater Victoria School District. How much more is undetermined.

Meanwhile, the increased share of education costs which the district must pay under the new scheme, would be \$400,000 based on the 1957 budget. And it has been hinted the 1958 bud-

get will increase school spending by \$700,000.

Most municipal officials hesitated to assess the new legislation, pending further study.

Oak Bay Reeve F. E. Norris expressed disappointment, however.

He said he did not think the changes would reduce local taxation for school purposes.

He said also, he felt the proposal "... doesn't give municipalities any greater measure of control over school costs."

"The government can still increase the assessment level and can disapprove any school costs—which automatically increases the municipal share."

Other local reeves and Mayor Percy Scurrell are out of town attending a Duncan meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities.

## Officials Welcome Expulsion Proposal

New teeth in the B.C. Public Schools Act will require students to work conscientiously and maintain a neat personal appearance, on threat of expulsion, or fine.

A bill, introduced in the legislature Tuesday, prohibits the further attendance of any student of 15 years or older, "if the pupil fails to apply himself to his studies, or fails to comply with rules and regulations."

The bill sets a fine of \$50 for anyone who disturbs or interrupts any official school function.

And it gives school boards a new authority to demand every pupil be "clothed appropriately."

The powers of the new act were welcomed in Victoria.

S. J. Willis Junior High principal, B. C. Gillie, noted for his interest in youth welfare, said:

"The control (over youngsters who loaf in school), is a good

thing. I have had, and have now, though not many, students who are lazy and showing little attempt."

Senior district inspector John Gough also welcoming the change, said in the past expulsion was only possible when major infraction took place. There was no way to rid a school of a student who showed no effort if his general behaviour was acceptable.

Meanwhile, a possible threat to free speech by teachers was seen in the proposed new Act by Walter Kitley, Victoria Teachers' Association negotiations committee official.

Mr. Kitley referred to a section of the new bill which provides fines for persons or associations "... trying to obstruct employment ... or trying to dissuade a teacher from seeking a job," in any district.

The legislation is thought to be aimed at halting "blacklisting."

## Halt For

The public of British Columbia has lost all confidence in the present system of forest management licence.

CCF leader Robert Strachan told the legislature Tuesday "No new licences should be issued," he said during debate on estimates for the lands and forests department.

"Under the present system the forest service has not been able to carry out what was set up to do—to manage and perpetuate our forests."

He described the present legislation as a "lanquid and flaccid attempt" to correct the mistakes of the past.

## 'Blacklisting' Discriminatory

Changes in the procedure for contract negotiations between school boards and teachers contained in the new Public Schools Act.

One provision makes "blacklisting of school districts by teachers an offence liable to a fine of \$500."

At the same time, school boards will be compelled to negotiate with teachers before submitting salary demands to arbitration.

The "blacklisting" clause prevents boards from discriminating against teachers applying for jobs. It reads:

"A person or association or which after the first day of September, 1958, obstructs attempts to obstruct the employment of a teacher."



RESOLUTION urging the legislature to request the federal government to establish Fort Rodd Hill as a national historic park was placed on the House order paper today by Herbert Bruch (SC-Essex). Mr. Bruch said Fort Rodd Hill now is surrounded by national defence property and pointed out that the federal government has turned nine forts in other parts of the country into national historic parks.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1958

## Halt Forest Licensing--Strachan

The public of British Columbia has lost all confidence in the present system of issuing forest management licences, CCF leader Robert Strachan told the legislature Tuesday.

"No new licences should be issued," he said during debate on estimates for the lands and forests department.

"Under the present system the forest service has never been able to carry out what it was set up to do—to manage and perpetuate our forests."

He described the present legislation as a "lanquid and flabby attempt" to correct the mistakes of the past.

"Forest legislation in B.C. is now at the crossroads and what we do now will determine the future of the industry 50 or 100 years hence."

### NINE-POINT PROGRAM

Mr. Strachan submitted a nine-point program which he believed should be the "yardstick" by which the legislature measured operation of its forest policy:

1. Keep all crown timber in the right of the crown both for ownership and management.
2. Assure a steady supply of raw materials to the present forest industry through a sound management policy directed and

managed by the forest service, under provisions of the Forest Act, to provide for proper planning by management, labor and the public.

3. The Forest Service is our best trustees to grow trees.

4. Issue no new forest management licences.

5. Strengthen the public working circle program.

6. Urge an expanded forest service.

7. Return to the Crown as rapidly as possible all cutting and management rights which have been alienated in various forms.

8. Review circumstances and

terms of all forest management licences issued to date.

9. Establish a forestry commission representative of the community and directly answerable to the legislature through the forests minister.

"Whether a member of this House believes in private enterprise or Socialism, he must accept the principle that all crown timber should be left in the right of the crown for both ownership and for management."

## 'Blacklisting' by B.C. Teachers, Discrimination by Boards Ended

Changes in the procedure for contract negotiations between school boards and teachers are contained in the new Public Schools Act.

One provision makes "blacklisting" of school districts by the teachers an offence liable to a fine of \$500.

At the same time, school boards will be compelled to negotiate with teachers before submitting salary demands to arbitration.

The "blacklisting" clause also prevents boards from discriminating against teachers applying for jobs. It reads:

"A person or association who or which after the first day of September, 1958, obstructs or attempts to obstruct the employment of a teacher by a

board by seeking to dissuade a teacher from applying for or accepting employment by a board on the grounds of the salaries paid or the salary scales in effect, or by seeking to dissuade a board from giving adequate and proper consideration to each application for employment received by the board, is guilty of an offence."

This is the new contract procedure detailed in the act:

When either side requests contract or salary changes on or before Sept. 30 each year, negotia-

tions must take place until Oct. 31.

If no mutually satisfactory agreement is reached in that time, the dispute will be submitted to two conciliators, one appointed by the school board and the other by the teachers.

If the conciliators are still unable to bring about an agreement, then the issue will go to arbitration.

If either side fails to appoint an arbitrator by Nov. 25, the other side may request a County Court judge to appoint one.

## Ultimatum by Doctors On Welfare Extended

B.C. doctors Monday gave the province an extra month's grace to work out a new fee schedule for welfare cases.

B.C. Medical Association spokesmen agreed to continuation of service for 30 days after the March 31 expiry of the present agreement.

The move was taken at a two-hour meeting with a legislative committee.

It means, in effect, that the government has until April 30 to increase fees to doctors under its social assistance medical service.

Under the agreement the Canadian Medical Association provides complete medical care for all persons holding a medi-

cal identity card issued by the provincial social welfare branch.

The government pays \$22.50 a year to the CMA for each person holding a card, and the doctors administer the fund themselves.

The CMA is now demanding a substantial increase in the annual payment amounting to about \$28.50 per person.

And the doctors are prepared to give up their fees, amounting to about \$1,500,000 a year, unless the government increases payments.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the cost of the program to the government has risen from \$700,000 in 1949-50 to \$1,500,000 in the current fiscal year.

"The annual payment per person has risen from \$14.50 in 1949 to the present \$22.50—a boost of 55 per cent. The per capita payment of \$22.50 is the highest paid in Canada for social assistance medical care," he said.

Spokesmen for the CMA told the legislative committee that when the scheme started in 1949 payments amounted to 68 per cent of bills to social assistance cases and pensioners.

Now they have dropped to 51 per cent.

The doctors are asking for a

60 per cent return, increasing progressively by negotiation in future years to the equivalent of the 90 per cent return from pre-paid medical schemes.

They are, however, pledged to continue service to all sick persons at all times.

Members of the legislative committee are:

Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard) chairman; Health Minister Martin, Provincial Secretary Wesley Black, William Speare (SC-Cariboo), Gordon Gibson (SC-Delta), Irvine Corbett (SC-Yale), Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver—East), Rae Eddie (CCF-New Westminster), P. A. Gibbs (Liberal-Oak Bay).



**RESOLUTION** urging the legislature to request the federal government to establish Fort Rodd Hill as a national historic park was placed on the House order paper today by Herbert Bruch (SC-Esquimalt). Mr. Bruch said Fort Rodd Hill now is surplus national defence property, and pointed out that the federal government has turned nine forts in other parts of the country into national historic parks.



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## Sommers Asks Compensation Referee Board

Creation of an independent board of referees to arbitrate disputed Workmen's Compensation Board cases was urged in the legislature Wednesday by Robert Sommers (S.C.-Rossland-Trall).

Membership of the appeal board should be non-professional—except possibly for the chairman—and should not contain any WCB personnel, the former forests minister said.

Decisions of the board of referees should be final, except if new medical evidence is presented at a later date, Mr. Sommers said.

### INJUSTICE DONE

Criticizing the compensation board, Mr. Sommers said he knew of "hundreds of cases" where workers had been treated "unjustly."

He said the appeal board could help to sort out just and fraudulent compensation claims.

A number of other members on both sides of the House criticized the compensation board during the afternoon.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said the board should decentralize its operation and establish more medical examining centres throughout the province.

Claims department of the board should not make decisions on the ability of an injured workman to return to his job without an examination by a board-appointed doctor, Mr. Squire said.

### HIGHER PAYMENTS

The CCF member also said compensation payments to injured workmen should be increased.

Labor Minister Lyle Wicks said later the decentralization proposal of Mr. Squire was a "good idea," and said the WCB hoped to establish more provincial medical centres.

The minister also stated that although the total payroll in B.C. is estimated to have dropped \$100,000,000 last year from 1956, compensation assessments by industry increased during the year.

## LONGEST HAUL FOR SOCREDS THIS SESSION

The current legislative session enters its eighth week today, making it the longest of recent years.

The session is expected to be prorogued before the end of next week, possibly Thursday.

It will be the longest session of the six-year Social Credit regime and will surpass the eight-week session of 1951.

# Dentists Battle Bill Favoring Technicians

Argument as to whether dental technicians should be allowed to deal directly with the public occupied a special committee of the legislature from 7 p.m. till close on midnight Wednesday.

Leading B.C. dentists argued against a bill now before the legislature which would pave the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

Opposing views were submitted by representatives of the Dental Technicians and Public Denturists Society of B.C.

The argument was still unconcluded when the meeting adjourned so that some of the delegates could catch the midnight boat back to Vancouver. A further meeting is to be arranged next week.

Dr. C. R. Hallman of the College of Dental Surgeons of B.C. argued that legislation permitting dental technicians to deal directly with the public would discourage students from entering the profession.

### STUDENTS HOLD BACK

He stated that a number of pre-dental students were already hesitating because of the bill now before the legislature.

Dr. Hallman said such legislation would be "a very real threat" to public health and standards of dental health services would deteriorate.

He added that the mechanics of making a denture are necessary but "merely incidental" to the welfare of the anatomical structure involved, such as lining the mouth and palate, the tongue and its muscular attachments and the underlying bone structure of both upper and lower jaws.

Dr. Hallman said it was not

true that technicians dealing directly with the public could make dentures cheaper. The College of Dental Surgeons had a list of 63 dentists in the Vancouver area who charged in the same fee range and sometimes less than the prices advertised by "unethical technicians."

Owen Mason for the Dental Technicians' Society, said certain sections of the bill proposed to regulate direct dealings between a licensed dental technician and the general public.

He said the dental profession in Canada is not capable of graduating enough dentists to meet the needs of a growing population.

"Therefore, it would appear to be in the public interest if

trained ancillary personnel were able to take over certain aspects of dental care."

He pointed out that the members of the public are protected by insurance against the cost of dental care and expense is therefore a leading question. Dental technicians could supply dentures to the public "at a far lower cost" than dental surgeons.

The question of cost would be a leading consideration and when a comprehensive health and welfare plan was introduced in B.C.

A five-man examining board is being established to recommend to what extent, if any, dental technicians should be allowed to sell dentures to the public without having a dentist as middle man.

The B.C. cabinet will have the final say as to whether the board's recommendations are accepted.

## UBC Dental Faculty Asked of Legislature

Early establishment of a dental faculty at the University of British Columbia was urged before a legislative committee on dental legislation Wednesday night.

"It is agreed by all concerned that such a faculty should be established," said Dr. C. R. Hallman speaking for the council of the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia.

"The only obstacle is a question of finance and a difference of opinion between the present government and the university

authorities as to how or when it may be done."

Dr. Hallman believed that, because of the public response to the university's appeal for funds and the government's decision to make matching grants up to \$10,000,000, that the capital expenditure for establishment of the faculty is "well within the bounds of achievement."

He urged the committee to recommend to the government that a firm commitment be made in respect to the operating budget for a faculty.

"If the government acted immediately on that recommendation, a start could be made within months."

Dr. Hallman said a dental faculty would help take care of the dental health of many people in the low income group and would alleviate the acute shortage of dentists in rural areas.

"It would also give necessary leadership in the proper training of additional auxiliary personnel which, in turn, would help relieve the shortage in many areas."

The faculty would also be able to direct properly the training of dental technicians.

## Federal Highway Work Plan Asked

The federal government should set up a national development fund to build more highways and provide work for the unemployed, J. Donald Smith (S.C.-Victoria) told the Legislature Wednesday.

Mr. Smith said a "network of roads" throughout B.C. and other provinces would draw thousands more tourists from the United States and build up the country through increased revenues.

"Unemployment is the greatest problem facing the federal and provincial governments today. We have been fighting this problem as long as anyone in this House can remember."

Mr. Smith said it was unfortunate that many people regard unemployment as inevitable and a part of "our democratic way of life," yet it could be counteracted by bold far-sighted public works programs designed to open up the country.

"There is far too much complacency where unemployment is concerned," he said.

Sim  
Fo

## FOREST INQUIRY

# Gregory Williston Of 'Scandal'

George Gregory, the Liberal member for Victoria, warned Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston Tuesday he might become involved in "a scandal."

It could happen, Mr. Gregory said, unless the minister ordered a complete investigation to determine whether there was any impropriety in the granting of existing forest management licences.

He was referring to former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers, recently committed for trial on charges of bribery and conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences.

Mr. Gregory's statement followed a speech by Mr. Williston in which he said he had found "nothing out of line" after checking the existing licences.

### "SOMETHING WRONG"

"We, in the Liberal group, and we believe most of the people in B.C., believe there is something very seriously wrong in the administration of the lands and forests department under the predecessor of the present minister."

Mr. Gregory said the fact that Mr. Sommers and others had been committed to stand trial showed there was a "prima facie" case of guilt.

"How can you say there is no evidence that there has been no wrong doing?" Mr. Gregory asked.

Said Mr. Williston:

"May I say emphatically that in my review, in the evidence that was presented to me, I found nothing out of line."

### DISAGREEMENT

"Naturally there has been disagreement, and cabinet decisions . . . but all (licences) were adjudicated as they went along."

Mr. Williston said there would be no review unless any one could show evidence of wrong-doing in the licence contracts.

Mr. Gregory urged that Gordon Sloan, forestry advisor to the government, make a thorough investigation of the present situation.

# Single Family Court For District Urged

## Trained Probation Officers Suggested

Establishment of a unified juvenile and family court in Greater Victoria was urged today before the legislative committee studying the juvenile delinquency problem.

The proposal was contained in a brief presented by the family and children's service.

The court should be staffed by properly trained probation officers, the brief said.

At present each of the four local municipalities operates its own juvenile court with police officers functioning as probation officers. None are trained as probation officers, the brief said.

### FUNCTIONS DIFFER

"We believe that there has been a failure to recognize the necessary separation of function between the juvenile officer and the probation officer."

The brief was presented by F. John Child, chairman of the board of the Family and Children Service.

It said there is a "lack of co-ordination and unity of policy" in the four municipalities.

"If there were a suitably staffed, unified court, we believe that it would be possible to place many more children than at present on probation, rather than committing them to industrial schools."

A second brief was presented to the committee today by Lyle Somers, juvenile officer of the Victoria police department.

He urged that the legal age limit for juveniles be reduced from 18 to 16 years.

Many serious offences are being committed by 16 and 17-year-old youths, he said.

"These youths who wish to work at men's jobs and act like men, should be treated as men when they commit offences against the laws of our society."

Mr. Somers also said some way must be found to make parents realize their responsibilities.

## FOREST INQUIRY SOUGHT

### Gregory Warns Williston Of 'Scandal'

George Gregory, the Liberal member for Victoria, warned Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston Tuesday he might become involved in "a scandal."

It could happen, Mr. Gregory said, unless the minister ordered a complete investigation to determine whether there was any impropriety in the granting of existing forest management licences.

He was referring to former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers, recently committed for trial on charges of bribery and conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences.

Mr. Gregory's statement followed a speech by Mr. Williston in which he said he had found "nothing out of line" after checking the existing licences.

### "SOMETHING WRONG"

"We, in the Liberal group, and we believe most of the people in B.C., believe there is something very seriously wrong in the administration of the lands and forests department under the predecessor of the present minister."

Mr. Gregory said the fact that Mr. Sommers and others had been committed to stand trial showed there was a "prima facie" case of guilt.

"How can you say there is no evidence that there has been no wrong doing?" Mr. Gregory asked.

Said Mr. Williston: "May I say emphatically that in my review, in the evidence that was presented to me, I found nothing out of line."

### DISAGREEMENT

"Naturally there has been disagreement, and cabinet decisions . . . but all (licences) were adjudicated as they went along."

Mr. Williston said there would be no review unless anyone could show evidence of wrong-doing in the licence contracts.

Mr. Gregory urged that Gordon Sloan, forestry advisor to the government, make a thorough investigation of the present situation.

Mr. Gregory was cautioned by Alex Matthew, chairman of the House committee on estimates, when he first referred to the Sommers case.

"I will not refer to anything that has not been published in the newspapers," Mr. Gregory said.

He then outlined the main points in the Sommers trial and continued:

"The criminal courts are no place in which to conduct an inquiry as to whether or not there has been impropriety in the granting of forest management licences."

"Many things involved in an inquiry into the issuance of forest management licences would be irrelevant in a criminal case."

"The court in the criminal case will not be called upon to say whether anyone offered or expected bribes."

### CASE REVIEWED

Mr. Gregory recalled that in the case now before the courts Mr. Sommers had sworn an affidavit listing documents in his possession.

These included a promissory note for \$2,500 made by himself and payable to a man named H. W. Gray.

Another note for \$1,000 payable to Mr. Gray and a third note for \$1,000 payable to Mr. Gray.

"This same man Gray has also been committed for trial on a charge of conspiracy in the issue of forest management licences," Mr. Gregory continued.

"No one has said that the then minister of lands and forests or any of the corporations or persons are guilty. But the fact they have been committed for trial shows there is a prima facie case of guilt."

"Surely if there is a prima facie case of impropriety in the granting of forest management licences the time has come for a complete and thorough investigation into the system under which these licences were issued."

## Operator Protests Gas Station Hours

An independent Victoria service station operator appeared before the legislative municipal affairs committee Wednesday to protest proposed provincial regulation of gas station hours.

A. G. Beattie, who operates the M and M Service Station at 308 Menzies, said regulations in the new Municipal Act amendments are "discrimination under the guise of fair play."

The Municipal Act now allows municipalities to exempt gas stations from control, and few municipalities have applied controls, Mr. Beattie said. This practice should be continued, he said.

Major oil companies in B.C. have already told the committee they were opposed to the change, and called for no regulation of hours "other than that provided by the normal interplay of economic forces."

The proposed amendment, which is backed by the Automotive Retailers' Association, would close stations at 6 p.m. with special provisions for later opening.

Mr. Beattie charged that the association, which represents operators, has a record of protesting "discriminatory legislation."

"Certainly centennial year is no time to curtail services for visitors," he said. "Why not give unrestricted operation at least a year's trial. We have had eight years of discrimination."

Mr. Beattie has previously protested to Victoria city council local service station regulations.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Only 19 of the 52 members of the legislature were still in their seats when another weary night sitting ground to a halt just before 11 p.m. Wednesday.

As so often happens when Premier Bennett is away, a spirit of boredom and fatigue seemed to fall over the chamber and the additional absence of fiery CCF leader Robert Strachan made matters worse.

The attendance was further depleted by the fact that 10 members were attending a committee meeting across the hall which lasted from 7 p.m. till nearly midnight.

The committee heard interminable briefs and submissions from dentists and dental technicians concerned with a new bill which would pave the way for technicians to deal directly with the public.

Arthur Turner, the benevolent CCF member for Vancouver East, tried valiantly to be in two places at once, nipping back and forth from the House to the committee.

Somewhat he managed to return to the House just in time to head off the passing of a vote for salary and office expenses of Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan.

Mr. Turner pleaded with the government to hold over this vote until there were more members in the House. Attorney-General Robert Bonner, who was deputizing for Premier Bennett, agreed although, by this time, all other estimates for the mines department had been passed.

Bowing his thanks, Mr. Turner then skipped back into the committee room and the House—or what was left of it—adjourned until 2 p.m. today.

★ ★ ★  
Premier Bennett and Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston were absent all Wednesday attending track-laying ceremonies at the new Pacific Great Eastern Railway town of Chetwynd.  
Mr. Strachan skipped the night sitting to fly to Vancouver on party business.

★ ★ ★  
As the House drooped steadily through estimates of expenditures, 83-year-old Tom Uphill, the Independent Labor member for Fernie, created a diversion by climbing up into the press gallery where he

sat scribbling notes for nearly half an hour.

The stairs leading down from the gallery are very steep and many younger men have fallen down them. But not Mr. Uphill.

"I'll fall down when I'm ready," he joked refusing assistance.

Mr. Uphill is the only member of the legislature who has the right to sit in the press gallery, having been presented with a life membership last year.

But history records that he has been up there before during his 38 years as an MLA.

★ ★ ★  
Thirty senior high school students from Nanaimo were guests of Recreation Minister Earle Westwood in the Speaker's Gallery.

They presented him with their own particular centennial creation—an attractive, hand-made booklet giving the history of Vancouver Island place names.

The list ranges from Alberni, named after Don Pedro Alberni, to Zeballos, which takes its name from Lieut. Ciriaco Ceuallos, a Spanish officer in Malaspina's expedition.

★ ★ ★  
A sawmill owned by Irvine Corbett, the Social Credit member for Yale, burned down at Hope Tuesday night.

Mr. Corbett, who owns his own plane and flies home every weekend, left here Wednesday morning, looked over the damage and arrived back in time for the night sitting.

He said the mill was insured for \$100,000.

★ ★ ★  
Capt. D. J. Proudfoot, for many years a Liberal MLA for Victoria, returned to the House as a guest and sat behind the Opposition ranks listening to debate on estimates.

★ ★ ★  
Current speculation is that the business of the current session will end next Thursday with prorogation by Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross the following day.

Some, however, believe the House will prorogue earlier and a few private bets are being laid.

## TIE WAGES TO PRICE

### New Plan to Keep Britannia Going

A proposal to keep the Britannia Mine operating by tying wages to the price of copper has been made by the legislative labor committee.

Committee chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard) sent a wire Wednesday night to the company asking if it is willing to negotiate with the mine-union on that basis.

The committee also invited alternative proposals from the company.

The wire said the union has already indicated a willingness to negotiate.

It was addressed to A. G. Kirkland, general manager of mines for the U.S.-based Howe Sound Co., parent company of the Britannia Mining and Smelting Company.

Mr. Kirkland appeared before the committee Tuesday, but said he was not authorized to make any statement involving company finances.

The wire urged the company to give "serious consideration" to the proposal.

"The committee will make every effort towards completing some arrangement whereby the mine may open and the men resume work," it said.

"Please advise if wage negotiations can lead to reopening the operation at Britannia."

The labor committee is scheduled to meet again Monday.

Britannia closed down Feb. 28, throwing some 400 employees out of work. Another 400 were laid off in December, when the operation was curtailed.

## New Law Planned To Avert Frauds

Legislation to protect the public against frauds will be introduced in the legislature this session by Attorney-General Bonner.

Mr. Bonner gave notice today he will bring in "An Act for Prevention of Frauds" Friday.

It is believed the legislation will deal particularly with fraudulent sales of consumer goods. A special branch may be set up within the attorney-general's department for this purpose.

## FOR BANKRUPTS

### Socred Urges Act to Secure Workers' Pay

Institution of a Wages Security Act in B.C. to protect workers of firms which go broke was urged in the legislature Wednesday by R. O. Newton (SC-Columbia).

Employers in certain industries should be required to put up security in the form of cash or bonds so that workers would be paid in the event the firms go bankrupt, Mr. Newton said.

"I feel that due to the economic situation at the present time such an act is an absolute necessity," he said.

The Social Credit member said there is a Wages Security Act in Alberta covering the mining and the forestry industries.

He referred to a case at the town of Donald in his interior riding where a U.S.-owned sawmill company had pulled out leaving \$56,000 in unpaid wages.

## CCFer Urges Shorter Work Week

Reduction of the maximum work week from 44 to 40 hours to ease the unemployment situation was proposed in the legislature Wednesday by Rae Eddie (CCF-New Westminster).

Such a step by the provincial government would enable a

better sharing of work among the labor force, Mr. Eddie said.

The CCF member also urged the government to tighten up enforcement of the provincial Hours of Work Act.

Some firms are working overtime shifts without first apply-

ing for a permit from the labor department, he said.

Mr. Eddie said labor's right to strike must be jealously guarded, and said right-to-work legislation would result in "complete chaos" within the trade union movement.

He also said conciliation services in the province are not performing the function they were intended to do.

In many disputes, the conciliation officer stage is bypassed, Mr. Eddie said.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## How Much Help for Schools?

**B** RITISH COLUMBIA'S REVISED school act apparently gives some financial relief to municipalities. Whether it gives enough and to all municipalities may not be known until school districts have made up their budgets.

School costs are climbing generally. Pressure has built up over the years to have the Provincial Government accept a greater share of the load. The changes introduced into financing appear to reflect government response to that pressure.

Cautious comment immediately following introduction of the bill suggests, however, that even with help Greater Victorians may have to pay more this year than last.

This may be a pessimistic assessment. But if, as the bill stipulates, municipalities are held accountable for another two mills of basic school expenditure, they could be worse off than they are now, despite the fact that the Government is making larger grants in dollars.

Certainly the amendments by which the government assumes responsibility for a larger share of basic salary schedules, of basic approved costs and of capital costs reflect a more realistic approach to the question of education cost sharing. The salary payments will be established on those prevailing in 1957 rather than in 1955 as has been the case for the last two years.

In all, moreover, the government has announced increased payments of \$4,750,000 for all school purposes. This does not, of course, mean that municipalities will be able to lower previous budgets by that amount. Since the total cost of education has

risen, increased expenditure will nibble away at the \$4,750,000.

The important question to municipalities rests on the degree to which new higher costs offset the apparent gain in grants.

In other words, has the Government been generous enough to lift the added burden of rising costs from the back of the municipal taxpayer, or have the grants merely reduced the overload and allowed it to remain greater than that carried in recent years?

In certain other respects changes to the act appear to have definite merit. Particularly will this be the case if new regulations regarding teacher salary negotiations remove causes of conflict between school boards and teacher negotiators.

An atmosphere of unreality clouded the dealings of the local school board and the teachers in their wage dispute this year. If the regulations enforce sincere negotiation and eliminate grounds for blacklisting they will have accomplished a valuable purpose.

The public generally will approve the part of the bill which cracks down on the lazy, trouble-making pupil and makes provision for his removal from classes in which he is a discordant element.

Conscientious students and conscientious teachers deserve protection from such indolent "benchwarmers." The problem, however, does not end with their dismissal. There is still the question of what to do with the child removed from class but too young and immature to find a useful niche in society. Throwing him out of the school onto the street poses its own problems.

## MLAs DEBATE ELECTRICAL DISPUTE

### Ban on Strikes Against Public Utilities Urged

A demand for government action to bring about settlement of the electrical workers' strike was made in the legislature Wednesday night by George Gregory, Liberal member for Victoria.

Mr. Gregory said employees of utility companies should not have the right to strike.

He served notice that he will introduce legislation at this session making the awards of conciliation boards binding on both sides in firms under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission.

An emergency is facing the province as a result of the strike, the Liberal member said.

"Can we ignore the emergency because the lights have not yet gone out?" he asked.

The strike has not been effective so far because executives of the B.C. Electric and Hume & Rumble Ltd. have kept power flowing.

If they are unable to maintain the supply of electricity, the economy of the province "in less than 12 hours would be brought to its knees."

There would be no light; no heat or cooking facilities in most homes; no elevators; no telephone or telegraph; no police radio; and the whole transportation system would break

down because service station gas pumps could not operate.

Mr. Gregory said the present situation is more serious than the threatened national railway strike in 1950. At that time Parliament was called into special session to avert the walkout, he said.

Mr. Gregory said he believed in labor's right to strike, but believed walkouts in utility companies cause too great inconvenience to the public.

The people as a whole are more important than labor in such disputes, he said.

The Liberal member urged Labor Minister Lyle Wicks to state what the government intends to do about the strike.

The minister replied that the government is aware of the seriousness of the situation, and said he is "watching it very closely."

"If in due course it becomes apparent that some action is necessary, that is the time policy will be enunciated."

Mr. Wicks said he did not believe the present situation is as serious as that faced by the country in the 1950 railway dispute.

From the government side of the House a trade unionist member also warned that the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers may force

the government to implement compulsory arbitration legislation because of its present strike.

Donald Robinson, Social Credit member for Lillooet, said if it is found the IBEW has acted "irresponsibly," he would have to support arbitration legislation because it would be in the best interests of the province.

Mr. Robinson is an engineer on the PGE and a member of the Locomotive Brotherhood.

He began his statement by reading all of a front page editorial in Wednesday's Times which said "laid down the situation" about the strike.

"I've been a trade unionist all my life," Mr. Robinson said, and "I believe in the principles."

The member said he was not familiar with all the details of the electrical workers' strike.

"But I say this as a trade unionist and a worker, and a representative of a constituency, in view of the pattern of recent wage agreements in which the average settlement was 7½ per cent, I hope the IBEW realizes the position it is placing every trade unionist in the province."

(The union has rejected a 19-per-cent wage increase offer and is holding out for 40 per cent.)



FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

## \$100 Million Gift To Wenner-CCF

Randolph Harding, the CCF member for Kaslo-Slocan, accused the British Columbia government of making a gift of \$100,000,000 a year to the Wenner-Gren interests in a speech in the Legislature Thursday night.

He said one horsepower over a period of one year was worth \$25 and the government had given Wenner-Gren permission to build a 4,000,000 horsepower hydro-electric development on the Peace River.

"This means you are giving Wenner-Gren an outright gift of \$100,000,000 a year alone," he said.

### "POOR DEAL"

Mr. Harding referred to the government's agreement with the Wenner-Gren interests as "a poor deal".

He said surveys should be made and the mineral and timber resources put up to the highest bidder.

"That's free enterprise," Mr. Harding said. "To turn these resources over to one man is monopoly enterprise."

Hydro power should be developed by the province, he said. The Peace River hydro site now under investigation "is one of the greatest power sources in the province," he declared.

Mr. Harding seized on a statement by Lands and Forests Minister Williston that timber resources in the area do not appear to be of great economic value.

(The minister disclosed that 303 employees of his department were surveying the area last summer.)

"If Wenner-Gren isn't going in for the timber, what is he going in for?" Mr. Harding asked.

He suggested that Wenner-Gren was primarily interested in the mineral resources of the Trench.

W. J. Asselstine, a former Liberal minister of mines and now a Social Credit backbencher for Atlin, said there was no reserve on minerals for Wenner-Gren.

"If there was, I wouldn't be sitting on this side of the House," Mr. Asselstine said.

Mr. Harding retorted that the Wenner-Gren interests "have the edge" over other interests looking for minerals in the area.

### PROGRESS

Replied Mr. Williston: "Now we are making progress. Earlier it was suggested the Wenner-Gren agreement was a whole giveaway. Now it seems we are only giving them a slight edge."

Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook) said:

"It seems we are so anxious to develop this country we are prepared to give it away. If the resources of the Rocky Mountain Trench were untouched for another 100 years, future generations would still be able to utilize them."

## HEAVY-EYED LAWMAKERS ADJOURN AT MIDNIGHT

The B.C. Legislature adjourned at 12.15 today after passing estimated expenditures for the lands and forests department amounting to more than \$12,200,000.

It was the second time that the estimates of Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston had been up for discussion. The first time, last Tuesday, the debate ran for more than four hours.

Thursday night they were debated for another four hours before they were approved. Most of the debate centred around the controversial Wenner-Gren scheme to develop 40,000 square miles of north-central British Columbia.

## Gov't Rejects Control Of Phone Firm by PUC

A CCF proposal that the B.C. Telephone Company be placed under control of the Public Utilities Commission was turned down by the government Thursday.

But Attorney-General Bonner indicated the government may consider the suggestion in the future.

A resolution introduced by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the telephone company now is subject to "limited and ineffective" control by the federal board of transport commissioners.

### 32-12 VOTE

The resolution said the government should apply to Ottawa to have control of B.C. Telephone Co. transferred to the province.

It was voted down, 32-12. Mr. Strachan said the federal Transport Board is concerned only with the "fiscal needs" of the company, not the service it provides.

"In every district in the province there is ample evidence something must be done about telephone service," the CCF leader said.

The purpose of the PUC is to protect the consumers of the province, "and the people definitely need protection and better service."

When government members stood up to vote against the resolution, Mr. Strachan jibed:

"They're all satisfied with the service of the telephone company."

"You can expropriate it when you become government," Attorney-General Bonner retorted.

Earlier, Mr. Bonner said the B.C. Telephone Co. is incorporated under a special federal statute which would have to be amended before control could be reverted.

The attorney-general said the government could not accept the resolution "at this time," but added that "some of the points of the Opposition leader may commend themselves in due course."

He asked Mr. Strachan for specific complaints that could be taken up with the Board of Transport Commissioners.

### TOO FAR REMOVED

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) said federal jurisdiction is "too far removed from the local scene."

"History shows the company has had every advantage from its preferred position," Mr. Dowding said.

It has not provided service commensurate with the profits it has enjoyed, the CCF member added.

Mr. Dowding said there is a "tight monopoly" in the price of telephone equipment.

"It is a wonderful field day for profiteers with inter-related companies," he said, "and

the cost is paid by the subscribers."

"The people of B.C. are paying a heavy tribute for this private monopoly," Mr. Dowding said.

J. Donald Smith (SC-Victoria) said he believes rates charged by B.C. Telephone are "excessive," but said he could not support the resolution without more concrete evidence.

Mr. Smith suggested a legislative committee inquiry into the matter.

The Victoria member was the only government backbencher to speak in the debate.



NO  
CR  
IN THE

Randolph Harding, the member for Kaslo-Slocan, has a p

He is wondering (already) whether the British Columbians of 50 years hence will be asking:

"What was a Social Credit?"

Mr. Harding is so concerned for the people of 2008 A.D. that he wants the legislature to keep a Hansard (verbatim) record of speeches so that they may be read and studied by the people of that advanced era—which may well include pneumatic, weather-proof clothes and a five-day week-end.

If we had a Hansard, said Mr. Harding, people 50 years from now would be able to learn about Social Credit—and why!

Premier Bennett, of course, could not miss this opportunity for a profound statement aimed at the historians of 2008 A.D.

"This period will live in the annals of the province as an era of progress and development."

He did not feel, however, that the historians of 50 years hence needed any Hansard to assist them. The government's record of achievement would be a standing monument to its foresight and wisdom.

Mr. Harding refused to be overawed by this grandiloquence. He insisted that, if the people of 2008 could read Hansard reports of speeches made under Social rule, they might get a glimmer of what it was all about.

Social Credit J. Donald Smith, Victoria, broke ranks with the government and voted for a Hansard.

Tom Uphill, the 83-year-old Labor member for Fernie, declared he was not afraid of anything which might appear in Hansard.



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Randolph Harding, the good-humored CCF member for Kaslo-Slocan, has a problem on his mind.

He is wondering (already) whether the British Columbians of 50 years hence will be asking:

"What was a Social Credit?"

Mr. Harding is so concerned for the people of 2008 A.D. that he wants the legislature to keep a Hansard (verbatim) record of speeches so that they may be read and studied by the people of that advanced era—which may well include pneumatic, weather-proof clothes and a five-day weekend.

If we had a Hansard, said Mr. Harding, people 50 years from now would be able to learn about Social Credit—and why!

Premier Bennett, of course, could not miss this opportunity for a profound statement aimed at the historians of 2008 A.D.

"This period will live in the annals of the province as an era of progress and development."

He did not feel, however, that the historians of 50 years hence needed any Hansard to assist them. The government's record of achievement would be a standing monument to its foresight and wisdom.

Mr. Harding refused to be overawed by this grandiloquence. He insisted that, if the people of 2008 could read Hansard reports of speeches made under Sacred rule, they might get a glimmer of what it was all about.

Social Credit J. Donald Smith, Victoria, broke ranks with the government and voted for a Hansard.

Tom Uphill, the 83-year-old Labor member for Fernie, declared he was not afraid of anything which might appear in Hansard.

"My life is an open book," he declared.

"I hope nobody reads it," replied Premier Bennett with a mischievous grin.

On duty as an attendant in public galleries is Squadron Leader Bartley S. Philp, one of that gallant band of Canadian veterans who pioneered the Royal Canadian Air Force. Mr. Philp joined the 23rd Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps in Winnipeg in 1916 and ventured aloft in those primitive bi-planes which fought back the enemy in France.

"I was lucky," he said. "I never had a crash and of all the ack-ack shells that were aimed at us none ever bothered me."

Flying in an open cockpit was "pretty rough" compared with today's centrally-heated cabins. Mr. Philp recalls, however, that aviator's suits were fitted with electric wires conveying heat to all parts of the body.

In theory, that is . . .

"Too often," Mr. Philp said, "you had too much heat in one part of your anatomy and no heat in another."

Mr. Philp re-enlisted in the RCAF in the Second World War and served with the ferry command from 1939 to 1944. His son, Owen, is an RCAF squadron leader working with the Directorate of Air Safety in Ottawa.

Previously Owen was a leading RCAF test pilot . . . in every sense a chip off the old block.

It's a long step from flying planes under fire to directing people to their seats in the public gallery. But Mr. Philp is philosophical.

"You can't keep on flying forever," he says.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

## House Rejects Hansard Move

The government Thursday rejected a Hansard for the Provincial Legislature.

Provincial Secretary Wesley Black claimed verbatim reporting of debates "would not be conducive to good government."

Vote against the CCF-sponsored resolution was 32-14.

One Social Credit backbencher—J. Donald Smith of Victoria—voted against the government in favor of a Hansard.

Mr. Black said the government had given serious consideration to the proposal in the last few years, but had decided it would not be in the best interests of the people.

Members would use a Hansard to "propagandize" their own constituencies, he said.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan said the government members were apparently afraid to have their words placed on record.

### SCRAPING BOTTOM

"The government is really scraping the bottom of the barrel to find excuses for not supporting the resolution," Mr. Strachan said.

"The people on the government side say lots during the session they would want to forget—things they don't want taken back to their home ridings."

The Opposition leader scored the statement made last week by Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) that government members can have their say in caucus without taking up the time of the House.

### SPEECH IN HOUSE

"What kind of approach is that?" Mr. Strachan asked. "The members shouldn't be speaking behind the closed doors of the caucus, but in the legislature."

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said the province is losing something from a historical viewpoint alone that it cannot afford to lose by not having a Hansard.

"I have heard many wonderful speeches in this House that

I would like to sit down and read again."

Mr. Harding said a Hansard would raise the level of debate in the Legislature.

"We would be much more careful if we knew we were going to be recorded for posterity."

Mr. Smith said he was opposing the government by supporting the resolution "with mixed feelings."

"But I feel it is something the people of Victoria and the province want," he said.

### DETERIORATE

John Tisdalle (SC, Saanich), said a Hansard "is not going to do much now for the debates", and we should be more concerned with the present than the future.

Herbert Bruch (SC, Esquimalt) said a Hansard would "deteriorate" debates in the House. In every legislature where they are used, debates have to be restricted in length, he said.

Mr. Black said the government was not concerned about the cost of a Hansard.

"What we say here will not be remembered," the minister said. "What will be remembered is what we do here."

"The real Hansard is the statutes."

## Group Studies 60 MPH Limit On Highways

Appointment of a special group to investigate the possibility of increasing the speed limit on some B.C. highways to 60 miles an hour was disclosed today by Highways Minister Gagliardi.

The minister said the committee is headed by deputy highways minister Evan Jones, and includes other members of his department as well as representatives of the RCMP and B.C. Automobile Association.

The minister said he is taking a "cautious" approach to raising the speed limit in some districts.

"But if we can do it with the same amount of safety as today—okay."

## Vote Unlikely On Compulsory Arbitration

A motion by George Gregory (Lib-Victoria) to have compulsory arbitration in utility company labor disputes has been placed on the legislative order paper.

It is doubtful, however, that the proposal will be put to a vote in the House.

The motion asks leave to amend another act introduced earlier in the session by Mr. Gregory that would grant full bargaining rights to civil servants.

Since this act is unlikely to pass second reading, the amendment may never reach the floor. But there may be discussion of it during second reading.

The Liberal member has urged the action in view of the present electrical workers' strike which he said could cripple the province's economy.





## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

The old saying: "One man's meat is another man's poison," was aptly demonstrated in the Legislature Friday.

CCF members talked endlessly of the annoyance caused to West Vancouver residents by the bells and whistles of PGE locomotives passing through their property from Vancouver to Squamish.

But Stanley Carnell, the Social Credit member for South Peace River, said:

"When I hear the whistle of a PGE locomotive approach Dawson Creek it will be music to my ears."

Mr. Carnell's craving for music will not be too long delayed, for the PGE line into the Peace River is expected to reach Dawson Creek before the end of the summer.

★ ★ ★

A suggestion that the government tax bootleggers received scant consideration from the cabinet.

Gordon Dowding, the legalistic CCF member for Burnaby, proposed that, as the government was so keen on collecting taxes, it should go after the bootleggers.

"That is not our field," Premier Bennett replied. "The federal government looks after them through the income tax collections."

★ ★ ★

During debate on increased borrowing powers for British Columbia's toll bridges, Premier Bennett announced:

"The tolls on these bridges will be removed earlier than anyone in this House imagines."

"That is good election material," said Leo Nimsick (CCF, Cranbrook).

"All the things done by this government are good election material," the premier retorted.

Mr. Nimsick suggested that, as the premier is so proud of the government's new bridges, he might wish to have the Kelowna Bridge renamed the Bennett bridge.

"I have no desire to have this or any other structure named after me," the premier replied. "I am satisfied this government will be re-

membered for the bridges it has built long after the 50 years in which we expect to remain in power."

He added that the Pattullo Bridge at New Westminster would be an everlasting monument to Liberal premier Pattullo despite the "narrow-minded opposition that was raised to it at the time."

★ ★ ★

In a House of tired people, Alex Matthew, the benevolent deputy speaker, looks particularly fresh and lively.

"A lot depends on your mental attitude," Mr. Matthew says. "If you are really interested in what you are doing, you don't have time to think about being tired."

★ ★ ★

Like a breath of spring, Miss Heather McCrostie from Christchurch, New Zealand, blew into the legislative buildings Friday.

Dark, petite and enthusiastic, she wanted to know almost everything there was to know about British Columbia's government.

She sat in the public galleries, she studied a copy of the Magna Carta in the legislative corridors, she browsed through the archives and the provincial library and she stood outside the chamber inquiring as to the identity of the great men who hurried in and out.

Miss McCrostie had only two days in Victoria and was determined to make the most of them. This afternoon she leaves for Scotland to attend the famous Braemar Games in which her great-grandfather, Hugh McCrostie, received a kilt and sporrán from Queen Victoria in the 1890s.

She said the B.C. Legislature is little different from that of Wellington, New Zealand, except that in Wellington there are no page boys.

"The boys you have in this building are charming," she said. "They are alert and alive—and so well-mannered."

## Crown Grants Of Resources To Be Banned

The B.C. government will not allow the resources of the province to be given away in crown grants, Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan told the legislature Friday.

"Crown granting in years gone by was not necessarily detrimental to the best interests of this country," he said. "But with an eye to the future we consider the practice should be discontinued."

Mr. Kiernan was speaking in support of an act to amend the Mineral Act.

On Friday a delegation from the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines met with Mr. Kiernan seeking changes in some sections of new mining legislation introduced last week.

The Chamber, however, has expressed general satisfaction with the proposed amendments easing the new leasing system.

The mining operators are concerned primarily with a section requiring them to do annual assessment work in addition to paying an annual rental fee when they hold a 21-year lease.

Mr. Kiernan described the meeting as "amiable" and said he would be dealing with the points raised by the delegation during second reading of the bill.

## SLOAN FOREST PROBE COST \$173,719

Total cost of the Sloan royal commission on forestry was \$173,719, Lands and Forests Minister Williston reported to the Legislature Thursday night.

The minister was answering a question asked by P. A. Gibbs (Liberal, Oak Bay).

The forestry commission lasted two years.

## B.C. Tur

## Col. Din Educat On You

An education make parents public more ousness of ju was called for W. S. Dingley nile Foster H

Speaking tive social studying ju he also sugg

That some enable juve school due t reach the r standards to training sys ship.

## DOWN TO

That cons to reducing juveniles fr thereby ma Juvenile Ac Juvenile De ilar in this r

That the to recognize ents are res tion of child delinquenc rent measu the delinqu

That pro juvenile off ority throu to question offenders i school off hours.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1958

## B.C. Sunday Sport Bill Turned Down by House

### Col. Dingley Asks Education Plan On Youth Woes

An educational program to make parents and the general public more aware of the seriousness of juvenile delinquency was called for Thursday by Col. W. S. Dingley, head of the Juvenile Foster Home here.

Speaking before the legislative social welfare committee studying juvenile delinquency, he also suggested:

That some effort be made to enable juveniles who leave school due to their inability to reach the necessary academic standards to enter a vocational training system or apprenticeship.

#### DOWN TO 16

That consideration be given to reducing the age limit of juveniles from 18 years to 16, thereby making the provincial Juvenile Act and the federal Juvenile Delinquency Act similar in this respect.

That the courts be instructed to recognize the fact that parents are responsible for the action of children who committed delinquencies, and that deterrent measures be meted out to the delinquent and his parents.

That probation officers and juvenile officers be given authority through school inspectors to question suspected juvenile offenders in the presence of a school official during school hours.

The people of British Columbia have a right to decide what kind of Sunday they want in their own communities, Gordon Dowding (SC-Burnaby), told the legislature Friday.

Mr. Dowding introduced a bill which would have given local authorities the right to decide whether Sunday sport should be permitted.

It was defeated by the heavy government majority after Attorney-General Robert Bonner had stated that most of the agitation for Sunday sport came from Vancouver.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan jokingly suggested that the government could derive revenue from Sunday sport and it could be called a "sin tax."

Mr. Dowding replied that if the government implemented his bill they would show they were not "playing politics."

"You have symphony concerts on Sunday," he said, "and who is to say whether Sunday amusement should be restricted to music?"

## New Forestry Legislation Approved; Scored by CCF

The government's new forestry legislation was approved in principle by the legislature Friday, after it had been criticized by the CCF as being a "timid approach" to present wrongs.

Tony Gargrave (CCF-Mackenzie), said the legislation is "just a palliative measure with no depth."

"I can see nothing in the bill that meets the criticism directed by the people at the government," Mr. Gargrave said.

The only people in favor of the cutting and processing re- the present forest management system are the lumber operators who benefit from it, the CCF member said.

#### 'VERBAL NONSENSE'

Mr. Gargrave said the change in name from forest management licences to tree farm licences is "verbal nonsense."

"It is proof positive of the government's lack of policy," he said.

The limiting of licences to 21 years means only they will be awarded in "21-year pieces," Mr. Gargrave said.

"I can see no change in principle."

The CCF member reiterated his party's stand that all timber should be managed by the B.C. Forest Service.

#### NO SOCIALIZATION

Lands and Forests Minister Williston defended the present system, and said the government could not accept the CCF's proposal to "socialize" the forest industry.

Firms with forest management licences provide a stability of employment as a result of



## Ore Control Hit By Ex-Minister

Recent regulations giving the government control over half the ore in newly-discovered iron deposits were criticized in legislature Thursday by former mines minister William Asselstine.

Mr. Asselstine, now Social Credit member for Atlin, said the measure will discourage exploration for new iron ore properties.

### GO TO EAST

"I can't conceive anyone drilling for half the ore when they can go to Ontario and Quebec for all of it," the former minister said.

There must be greater iron ore reserves established before the province can support a basic iron and steel industry, he said.

Mr. Asselstine also said the government should clarify the wording of legislation passed last session imposing a special tax on iron ore in the ground to make it clear that no other mineral will be included.

Operators fearful of government intention to apply the tax to other metals have held up exploration projects, he said.

### EXPERIMENTAL

Mines Minister Kiernan admitted the government's action in lifting the iron ore reserve on the coast and putting in the 50-50 split regulation was on an "experimental" basis.

"We're not trying to make it difficult for the industry," the minister said, "but we can't throw it wide open."

The tax on iron ore was introduced because the government did not feel that ore should be shipped out of the province without some contribution to the treasury, Mr. Kiernan said.

### CAN'T TELL

Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said it was not a

good tax because it is impossible to determine exactly the extent of underground minerals.

There are other ways to protect our resources, Mr. Harding said.

The CCF member said new government legislation easing its new leasing system to meet operators' demands "on the whole is going to be good for the industry."

## MLAs Approve Bill For Tax on Bingo

A bill giving the government legal authority to impose amusement tax on bingo games was given second reading—approval in principle—in the legislature Friday.

The government previously has been collecting the tax on

bingo but its authority to do so has been questioned in the courts.

Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard), who has been advocating the tax at the last few sessions, said it will enable authorities to determine where proceeds from bingo games are actually going.

Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) asked whether the tax legislation would give bingo full legal status. At present it is legal only when the proceeds go toward charitable causes.

Premier Bennett replied the tax had "nothing to do" with the legality of bingo.

## B.C. Statutes To Be Revised

A revised edition of B.C. statutes, the first since 1948, will be published this year.

Legislation authorizing consolidation of statutes and amendments of the past 10 years was introduced and given first reading Thursday night.

Normally, revised editions of the statutes are put out every 12 years.

### BIG LOAD

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said decision to make a new publication this year was made because of the heavy volume of legislation in the last few years and the fact this is centennial year.

Government legal officials are halfway through the consolidation work now, and the job is not expected to be completed much before the end of the year.

## 'Adults Nice But Some Delinquent'

Three Vancouver high school students appeared before a legislative committee on juvenile delinquency Friday to tell the adults about teen-agers.

The three, from King Edward High School, were Gary Harkness, editor of the school paper, Gordon Thompson, active in sports, and John Thompson, president of the Student Council last year.

The committee was told by the three that teen-age drinking was only a minor problem, that they had never known of cases of drug addiction among high school students and disagreed with a suggestion that they shouldn't be allowed to drive cars.

### Some of their views:

**On adults:** On the whole, adults are nice people, but there are some who are delinquent themselves and therefore encourage it in juveniles. There are some "extreme adults" who think all teen-agers are delinquents.

**On youths creating disturbances:** These trouble makers generally are "on their own" and are generally in their early 20s. In showing their independence they get into trouble with the police and then brag about it.

**On poor teen-age manners towards girls:** Partly through lack of parental guidance and influence of reading material and movies.

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1958

**Bill Introduced  
In Legislature  
To Avert Fraud**

New legislation providing protection against frauds was introduced in the House Friday by Attorney-General Bonner.

The bill concerns the guarantee of indemnities. When it is passed, indemnity guarantees will be enforceable only if they are in writing.

In the past lawyers have been unable to agree, on the basis of old British law, whether they could be made verbally.

There had been speculation the anti-fraud legislation would deal with sales of consumer goods.



TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958

# Action Due This Year On UBC Land Planning

## Revenue Producing Scheme Considered

Action on a "master plan" for development of the University of B.C. Endowment Lands will be taken by the government later this year, Lands Minister Williston said today.

The plan was drawn up by Dr. D. B. Turner, now deputy minister of recreation and conservation, after a two-year study.

Dr. Turner's report was submitted to the government 14 months ago, but no action has been taken on it.

Mr. Williston said the government will consider the report to determine policy after the present legislative session is over.

The task of drawing up the development plan was turned over to Dr. Turner three years ago, in an attempt to make the endowment lands revenue-producing for the university.

### HELD IN TRUST

The lands are owned by the university, but administered in trust by the government.

To date, although there have been housing developments on them, the lands have produced little or no revenue because of the lack of an overall plan resulting in costly services.

The report is understood to recommend that the government continue to administer the lands.

However, at least one company has made a proposal to the government for private development of the endowment lands.

## MLAs Approve Local Control Of Shop Hours

Amendments to the Municipal Act, restoring to municipalities the power to regulate shops and service station hours, were given second reading—approval in principle—in the legislature Monday.

A number of members expressed disapproval.

Bert Price (SC, Vancouver Burrard) said shops regulations should be under provincial control. The province could be divided into zones to answer the needs of different areas, he said.

Mr. Price said members of municipal councils are too prone to give in to pressure groups.

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) said the government should have control in areas such as Greater Victoria and Greater Vancouver, where a number of adjacent municipalities are competing for business.

John Squire (CCF, Alberni) said the Municipal Act should contain protection for store and gas station employees against working unreasonable hours.

Premier Bennett said there is no solution to the shops regulations that will satisfy everybody.

## HOUSE OKAYS SUNDAY SPORT

Commercial Sunday sport for the city of Vancouver—subject to a court test—was approved by the legislature Monday.

The measure was one of a number of amendments to the Vancouver charter given third and final reading.

The government previously passed an order-in-council referring the matter to the B.C. Court of Appeal to see whether it is within the power of the legislature.

## Redistribution Of Provincial Ridings Urged

An impartial redistribution of seats in the B.C. legislature was urged Monday night by Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East).

He said the redistribution should be carried out by a member of the judiciary to ensure impartiality.

Mr. Turner also called for the "streamlining" of federal and provincial elections by one body which would be "impartial" and constantly engaged in keeping voters' lists up to date.

He said the present duplication of voters' lists in federal, provincial and municipal elections was not in the interests of the province.

## B.C. Mine Officials 'Ducked' MLA Charges

Operators of the Britannia copper mine were accused before the legislative labor committee Monday of "ducking out" to the U.S. following the shut-down of the mine three weeks ago.

Donald Robinson (SC-Lillooet) said the company had "thumbed their noses" at the committee, which is trying to keep the mine operating to save the jobs of 800 workers.

Mr. Robinson said the company should be ordered to appear before the committee to present its stand, and meet with the union.

Committee chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver Burrard) sent a wire to the company last week asking if wage negotiations with the Mine-Mill Union could lead to reopening of the mine. He suggested wages might be tied to the price of copper.

### WHAT AMOUNTS?

Monday the committee received a reply from company headquarters in Salt Lake City asking what "amounts" the committee had in mind, so the proposal could be taken up by the board of directors.

"It's pretty obvious the company doesn't want to operate," (the mine) commented Rae Eddie (CCF-New Westminster).

Union officials reiterated before the committee Monday they were prepared to meet the company "at any time under any auspices."

They said, however, they were opposed to tying wages to the price of copper.

The union suggested the company might be guilty of an illegal lockout, and Labor Minister Wicks invited it to present evidence to his department.

Harvey Murphy, western regional vice-president of the union, said no responsible company officials were left at Britannia.

"They ran away," Mr. Murphy said.

Residents were concerned about maintenance of communication, transportation, and heat, he said.

"I don't know what would happen if there was a fire."

Mr. Murphy said the government should intervene directly to maintain the community.

The union maintained the company operated at a profit in February, before closing the mine down on 24 hours notice at the end of the month.

## Labor Committee To Make New Bid

A special meeting of the legislative labor committee will be called to deal with the Howe Sound Company's latest failure to respond to appeals for cooperation in the committee's attempt to have the Britannia copper mine re-opened.

Committee chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver Burrard) Monday night wired A. G. Kirkland, general manager of mines for the Howe Sound Company in Salt Lake City, asking the company to meet the committee to see if negotiating could be opened with the Mine-Mill Union.

## Government Asked To Award Jobs During Winter

The provincial government was urged Monday to place as many works contracts as possible in the winter months to stabilize employment.

Recommendation was contained in a brief submitted by the B.C. Lumber Manufacturers' Association to the legislative labor committee, which is studying the seasonal unemployment problem.

Government specifiers and purchasing agents should attempt to use B.C. wood products instead of imported products for public works construction projects, the brief said.



NO  
CR  
IN TH

So many new laws were Monday that I was irresistibly lured by the Yorkshire "And it's through that there

Magna Carta, "As were signed by the barons of old.

"That in England today we can do as we like.

"As long as we do as we're told."

It was like some ancient religious chant:

"Shall section one pass?"

Aye.

"Shall section two pass?"

Aye.

"Shall section three pass?"

Aye.

It must be admitted, however, that against the resounding chorus of "Ayes" from the top-heavy Social Credit majority, there were valiant dissenting cries which sounded suspiciously like "Nos."

But they were as vapor on a frosty window pane. Nothing halted the steady, relentless march of new acts onto the statute books.

\*\*\*

Heads nodded sleepily in the public galleries as the procession of new bills passed second reading—which means approved in principle. But every now and then some perky Opposition member popped up with an objection.

Gordon Dowling, the volatile CCF member for Burnaby, questioned the imposition of a tax on bingo games.

"It is unwise to widen the powers of taxation so that they are left at the discretion of a minister," he said. "I effect this gives him the power to tax any game whether it is called bingo or housey-housey."

"Net year, when the minister of finance (Premier Bennett) has a big deficit and is desperate for revenue, he may be tempted to tax boys and girls for playing hop-scotch."

Smiling blandly, the Premier told the House the government had no such intentions.

"I give you my assurance this act will not be abused," he said.

Objections to the Shop Hours Regulations Act which amended, hands back to local authorities the right to determine shopping hours, highlighted the Premier as former hardware merchant.

MORNING SITTING TO SPEED UP

A motion clearing the B.C. Legislature this week order papers today.

The motion, under low morning sittings to necessary to ensure prompt

The early sitting was



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

So many new laws went through the legislature Monday that I was irresistibly reminded of those famous lines by the Yorkshire poet Marriott Edgar:

"And it's through that there

Magna Carta,  
"As were signed by the barons of old,

"That in England today we can do as we like,  
"As long as we do as we're told."

It was like some ancient religious chant:

"Shall section one pass?

Aye.  
"Shall section two pass?

Aye.  
"Shall section three pass?

Aye."

It must be admitted, however, that against the resounding chorus of "Ayes" from the top-heavy Social Credit majority, there were valiant dissentient cries which sounded suspiciously like "Nos."

But they were as vapor on a frosty window pane. Nothing halted the steady, relentless march of new acts onto the statute books.

★ ★ ★

Heads nodded sleepily in the public galleries as the procession of new bills passed second reading—which means approved in principle. But every now and then some perky Opposition member popped up with an objection.

Gordon Dowding, the volatile CCF member for Burnaby, questioned the imposition of a tax on bingo games.

"It is unwise to widen the powers of taxation so that they are left at the discretion of a minister," he said. "In effect this gives him the power to tax any game whether it is called bingo or housey-housey."

"Net year, when the minister of finance (Premier Bennett) has a big deficit and is desperate for revenue, he may be tempted to tax boys and girls for playing hop-scotch."

Smiling blandly, the Premier told the House the government had no such intentions.

"I give you my assurance this act will not be abused," he said.

Objections to the Shopping Regulations Act which, as amended, hands back to local authorities the right to determine shopping hours, highlighted the Premier as a former hardware merchant.

"From the time I took over a hardware store in Kelowna in 1930 until today there has always been a battle on this subject," he said.

"I have seen two petitions passed through the streets of Kelowna at the same time, both asking for something different and both getting signatures from the same people."

"I believe people will sign almost anything . . . There is no permanent solution to this problem of shopping hours—only trial and error."

"But mostly error," said a mocking voice from the CCF Opposition.

## Naturopath Bill 'Backward Step'

(See earlier story Page 22)

Legislation allowing naturopaths to police their own ranks and to prescribe drugs were labelled as "a backward step" by officials of the medical profession today.

Dr. Peter Lehmann, Vancouver, president of the B.C. Division of the Canadian Medical Association, and Dr. G. F.

Homer, president of the Victoria branch, attacked Monday's passage of the amendments by the legislature.

"I can't give my feelings on it fully but I do think that it is a step backward as far as medical care in this province is concerned," said Dr. Homer.

"They're not trained to prescribe drugs, and the province has no control over them because all naturopaths get their training in the United States."

"I don't see any reason for naturopaths at all," said Dr. Homer. "I think that any person who is not fully qualified should not be allowed to practise medicine."

Dr. Lehmann said the legislation is "another indication of the decline" in standards of health care in B.C.

### OWN STANDARDS CUT

The provincial government, in accepting responsibility for setting health care standards in B.C., retains control over medical training in universities.

"Yet here, in the case of naturopaths, they are undercutting their own standards by letting the naturopaths have control over themselves," he said.

The B.C. division of the medical association made representations opposing the move during its consideration by the legislature.

## Mental Nurses' Training Plan Urged By MLA

The government must maintain a full training program to ensure there are enough skilled workers to staff B.C. mental institutions, CCFer Randolph Harding told the legislature Monday night.

Mr. Harding said the government must also be prepared to pay higher wages if necessary to attract mental health workers.

The CCF member scored staff cuts in provincial mental institutions, which he said must result in decreased efficiency.

"You don't save money by pinching and squeezing in some of these important treatment centres," he said. "The best economy is to spend money to get these people well."

Mr. Harding also criticized the government for not spending the full amount on wages in the mental institutions that are allocated in the provincial budget.

He said the total unspent in the 1956-57 fiscal year was close to \$1,000,000.

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) also criticized the government's "folly of false economy" in the mental hospitals.

### HIGHER PAY NEEDED

Rates of pay must be increased, Mr. Dowding said.

Both CCF members decried statements by Provincial Secretary Wesley Black that the Opposition, the press and other organizations have been "playing politics" with provincial mental services.

"That's absolute nonsense," Mr. Harding said.

Mr. Black said "It's my view" that standards have not been reduced in the mental institutions as a result of staff cuts. These reductions were not made from the psychiatric workers, the minister said.

"As far as wages are concerned," Mr. Black said, "whether or not you can afford to compete with the bargaining that is going on for this type of service is a moot point."

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) referred to "rumblings of discontent among workers at Escondale, and urged Mr. Black to appoint a special committee to investigate working conditions there."

## MORNING SITTINGS POSSIBLE TO SPEED UP PROROGATION

A motion clearing the way for morning sittings of the B.C. Legislature this week, if required, appeared on the order papers today.

The motion, under Premier Bennett's name, would allow morning sittings to clear up any last-minute business necessary to ensure prorogation by the end of this week.

The early sitting would be from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.



TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1958

## Canada's Penal System Wrong Says Expert

Canada's penal system is characterized by "mediocrity," Professor John V. Fornataro of University of British Columbia, said here Monday.

The professor of criminology and sociology, said this mediocrity is brought about for political and economic reasons, and by "playing it safe."

The same situation would not be tolerated in a public health system, he said by way of example.

But in prisons, the public feels it is "dealing with rejects" so a similar concern is not felt.

Penal research in Canada, he said "is just about non-existent. We act on hunches and ideas picked up elsewhere."

In the field of correction, there is the tendency to "toss everybody into the same hopper, and hope something will stick."

This method he termed wrong and inadequate, as it affects not only the criminal but also the public from both money and conscience viewpoints.

"The big thing is to do a remedial job on the person who has already fouled up." If this is not

done, then there is a bad influence on all that the offender comes in touch with—friends, relatives, children.

"And the community pays the shot. If society wants to settle for an indifferent job, it pays the price."

Mr. Fornataro before coming to UBC last September, was for six years director of correction for the province of Saskatchewan.

A "hard labor" sentence usually means sitting in a cell, he said, whereas a correctional system conditions a man to go out and do a day's work.

Provincial jails at Oakalla

and Haney are too big to provide effective rehabilitation because it can't be sufficiently individual, he said.

There is also not enough segregation between the novice criminal and the hardened offender, he maintained.

On capital punishment he said "I'm personally opposed. Those who support retention do so on

the argument it is a deterrent to crime, and this simply does not have the support of facts or statistics."

He predicted eventual abolition of capital punishment is "inevitable."

The professor addressed the annual meeting of the John Howard Society of Vancouver Island in Spencerhouse Monday.

## Bill on Naturopaths Brings Bitter Fight

### National Health Law Introduced In Legislature

Legislation paving the way for a federal-provincial agreement on the sharing of hospital insurance costs was introduced in the legislature Monday by Health Minister Martin.

The agreement will be signed sometime before July 1, when the new plan goes into effect.

One of the main changes when federal participation begins will be extension of benefits to include some diagnostic and out-patient services.

The new provincial legislation allows the government after making an agreement with Ottawa to make new provisions for covering these services in clinics and possibly doctors' offices.

#### FREE OUT-PATIENTS

This will mean that BCHIS approved outpatient and diagnostic services will not be restricted to hospital out-patient departments.

It is also expected there will be a reduction in the one-year waiting period required to establish residency for BCHIS benefits for persons coming to B.C. from outside the province.

When the national hospital insurance plan goes into effect, the provinces will likely enter reciprocal residency agreements, perhaps at three months.

Main object of the residency clause will be to prevent U.S. citizens coming into the province and gaining immediate coverage.

### Liberals, CCF Oppose Legislation Allowing Group to Govern Selves

Strong opposition to new government legislation broadening the scope of naturopaths and allowing them to govern themselves was expressed in the Legislature Monday by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

"You're giving these people practically everything the medical profession has except the right to call themselves doctor," Mr. Gregory said during third reading of the bill.

The Liberal member described the bill as a "retrograde step."

By approving such legislation the government is contributing to the lowering of medical standards in the province, he said.

Mr. Gregory's stand was supported by Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook).

#### WITCH DOCTORS NEXT?

"One of these days we will get a bill asking us to give status to witch doctors and medicine men," Mr. Nimsick said.

The legislation will discourage young people from going into the medical profession and spending seven years in study, the CCF member said.

Tom Bate (SC-Vancouver Point Grey) who introduced an amendment which allow the naturopaths to use drugs in their treatments, claimed that naturopaths study longer than medical doctors.

"I am very much opposed to the whole bill and the amendment," Mr. Gregory said. "What set the naturopaths apart in the past was that they didn't deal in drugs."

#### NOT PHARMACISTS

The naturopaths have no training in pharmaceuticals, he said.

"The thing I can't get out of my mind," Mr. Gregory said, "is that the doctors who run the Hoxsey clinic are naturopaths."

"So I think we should be very careful about letting these people loose on the people of B.C."

"The best you can say is that they're second class physicians."

Mr. Gregory said the new legislation will help the naturopaths to "ease themselves" into the medical field.

Health Minister Eric Martin said the new bill was introduced because the naturopaths were being "encroached on legally—they were unable to act at all."

#### NOTHING FROM B.C. MA

Mr. Martin said he had no official protest from the B.C. Medical Association on the wording of the bill.

"Are you trying to knock these people out of existence?" the minister asked the opposition members. "That's what you're trying to do."

As the bill went through third reading section by section, Mr. Gregory introduced a number of amendments which would have in effect nullified the intent of the bill. Each was ruled out of order or voted down.

In a final attempt, the Liberal member moved that the bill be hoisted for six months. That motion was ruled out of order by Speaker Hugh Shantz.

## Closed Shop Unless Teachers Stop Blacklisting

A switch in government listing of B.C. school districts was announced Tuesday by Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson disclosed in the legislature the government will delete the contentious clause in the new Public Schools Act which would have made blacklisting illegal.

Instead, the government intends to lift the teachers' "closed shop" privileges until the threat of blacklisting is removed.

#### OPEN TO ABUSE

Announcing the government decision to withdraw the "blacklisting" clause, Mr. Peterson said it was so broad it would be open to abuse.

"It is an extremely difficult matter to prevent these tactics . . . by enforceable legislation," the minister said.

Under the old and the new Public Schools Act, every teacher must become a member of the B.C. Teachers' Federation in order to teach.

Mr. Peterson said: "If the Teachers' Federation is going to utilize this compulsory membership to deprive school districts of teachers by declaring certain districts in dispute . . . it becomes necessary for the government to discourage this procedure."

#### BY PROCLAMATION

The minister said the government proposes to make the "closed shop" clause of the new act subject to proclamation.

"It will not be proclaimed until this unfortunate situation is resolved," he said.

"I hope this will be a short time," Mr. Peterson added.

The minister said he hoped the new negotiation and conciliation procedure laid out in the new act would put an end to "these deplorable tactics" of blacklisting.

Mr. Peterson said his main responsibility must be to welfare of the province, not just the school trustees or teachers.

"I must see that the schools are open and remain open; the instruction of children, and to see there are properly qualified teachers to instruct them."

#### BLACKLISTED

The minister said the federation has blacklisted 26 of the province's 102 school districts.

This would mean that qualified teachers would be barred for positions in these districts, he said.

The federation took this action "instead of applying for arbitration as is their right under the Act," Mr. Peterson said.

The minister said the federation is even taking advertisements in British papers to vilify teachers planning to emigrate from the situation here.

Mr. Peterson said he had attempted to get a commitment from the federation that blacklisting will not be used in the future.

# Closed Shop Ends Unless Teachers Stop Blacklisting

A switch in government policy to combat "blacklisting" of B.C. school districts by the Teachers' Federation was announced Tuesday by Education Minister Peterson.

Mr. Peterson disclosed in the legislature the government will delete the contentious clause in the new Public Schools Act which would have made blacklisting illegal.

Instead, the government intends to lift the teachers' "closed shop" privileges until the threat of blacklisting is removed.

## OPEN TO ABUSE

Announcing the government decision to withdraw the "blacklisting" clause, Mr. Peterson said it was so broad it would be open to abuse.

"It is an extremely difficult matter to prevent these tactics... by enforceable legislation," the minister said.

Under the old and the new Public Schools Act, every teacher must become a member of the B.C. Teachers' Federation in order to teach.

Mr. Peterson said:

"If the Teachers' Federation is going to utilize this compulsory membership to deprive school districts of teachers by declaring certain districts in dispute... it becomes necessary for the government to discourage this procedure."

## BY PROCLAMATION

The minister said the government proposes to make the "closed shop" clause of the new act subject to proclamation.

"It will not be proclaimed until this unfortunate situation is resolved," he said.

"I hope this will be a short time," Mr. Peterson added.

The minister said he hoped the new negotiation and conciliation procedure laid out in the new act would put an end to "these deplorable tactics" of blacklisting.

Mr. Peterson said his main responsibility must be to welfare of the province, not to just the school trustees or the teachers.

"I must see that the schools are open and remain open for the instruction of children, and to see there are properly qualified teachers to instruct them."

## BLACKLISTED

The minister said the federation has blacklisted 26 of the province's 102 school districts.

This would mean that no qualified teachers would apply for positions in these districts, he said.

The federation took this action "instead of applying for arbitration as is their right under the Act," Mr. Peterson said.

The minister said the federation is even taking advertisements in British papers to warn teachers planning to emigrate of the situation here.

Mr. Peterson said he had attempted to get a commitment from the federation that blacklisting will not be used in the future.

"I have not been successful," he said.

The minister made the announcement at the afternoon sitting of the House during second reading of the new act.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan immediately moved the adjournment of second reading to give members time to study the new measure.

"This is a completely new principle in the field of education," Mr. Strachan said.

It was expected the new act would be debated at the night sitting, and many local teachers were in the public galleries.

However, the entire sitting, from 8:30 p.m. to 1:05 a.m. was taken up with passing of estimates.

Second reading of the Public Schools Act was scheduled for today.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1958.

# Angry Teachers Ready to Meet With Minister

(See also Page 3)

British Columbia's 10,000 "angry" teachers are expected to erupt April 7 against a provincial ultimatum aimed at halting "blacklisting."

Until that date, when 800 B.C. Teachers' Federation delegates meet in Vancouver, no emergency sessions are planned, vice-president Harold Parrott of Victoria said today.

Proximity of the annual meeting ruled out any special meeting, he said.

Meantime, the BCTF is ready to accept a proposal by Education Minister Leslie Peterson that BCTF and B.C. School Trustees' Association delegates meet to "work out their differences." No date was set.

B.C. School Trustees' president Lorne Aggett said today in Vancouver his group is ready to meet with teachers at any time.

It would depend on "... how it ends up on the floor of the House today."

Mr. Parrott contended the whole conflict could be resolved by school boards in the 27 no-agreement areas in the province.

## 'Answer Lies With the Boards'

"The impasse could be resolved quickly if boards would call in the teachers and resolve the problem in negotiations—the answer lies with the boards."

Mr. Parrott and BCTF executive secretary Allan Spragge both were critical of a provincial "ultimatum" delivered by Mr. Peterson—either give up blacklisting or lose the "closed shop" provisions of the act.

Mr. Parrott feels if the government withholds the teachers' right to make all teachers join the BCTF, the action would merely strengthen the militancy of the teachers.

"The government must wake up to the fact, teachers throughout the province are angry."

"If the officers at this point give way to the minister's pressure and make the commitment he asks, there is no doubt whatever, the teachers would repudiate it."

"(It) would tighten the teacher ranks and stiffen their attitude as nothing else could do."

"Teachers do not want to take action which would close any school in the district, nevertheless, they must defend their right to negotiate their salary contracts..."

## 'Blacklisting Must Be Halted'

Mr. Parrott said he felt the Easter Monday BCTF meeting would "... give direction to the elected officers," with respect to dealing with the threatened loss of closed shop rights.

Trustees' president Aggett felt the BCSTA "... neither agrees nor disagrees with the minister's plan. All we are concerned with is halting 'blacklisting.'"

Earlier, Mr. Aggett recalled an assurance by Premier Bennett that "there would be teachers in B.C. schools in September."

Mr. Aggett said: "If blacklisting continues and interferes with

the staffing of the schools, we'll pass the ball to the premier... we'll be forced to do so."

Greater Victoria School Board is one of the no-agreement areas involved in the controversy. School board finance chairman Kenneth Leeming said the proposed government action would be "a most welcome solution to the blacklisting of school boards by the teachers' association."

He said the continued action of Greater Victoria Teachers' Association and the BCTF in discouraging new teachers from seeking jobs here, could force closure of some classrooms in September.

# New 'Omnibus' Bill Amends 21 Statutes

Second reading of an "omnibus" bill which would amend 21 separate provincial statutes was adjourned in the legislature Tuesday by Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby).

Mr. Dowding said he wanted more time to study the implications of the bill.

It is the first time such legislation has been introduced in B.C., although the method is in use in some other provincial legislatures and the House of Commons.

Normally the government would bring in a separate bill for each amendment.

The bill is entitled "An Act to amend and repeal certain provisions and references in the statute law."

Its 24 sections include changes to the Liquor Act, the Adoption Act, the County Courts Act, the Marriage Act and other statutes. Most are of a minor nature.

Under this system of amending legislation, the existing act is not opened up to amendments by private members as it is under normal method.



## Debt Plan Delay Refused by Gov't

A last-ditch attempt by the Opposition to have the government put aside its supplementary debt reduction allocation in the 1958-59 budget went down to defeat in the legislature early today.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan said the government should hold the \$12,000,000 set aside for extra debt reduction for work projects and other provincial needs.

His motion that the vote be removed from the estimates was defeated 29-12.

### LIBERAL SUPPORT

It was supported by the two Liberal members of the House, who made a similar motion at the last session.

P. A. Gibbs (Lib.-Oak Bay) told the government it should put aside the \$12,000,000 as a "precautionary measure."

"You'll need it," Mr. Gibbs said.

The Liberal member said the government is budgeting for a \$16,000,000 deficit in the next fiscal year.

### CUTTING SERVICES

Mr. Strachan repeated his earlier claim that the government should not be putting aside extra amounts to retire the provincial debt while at the same time cutting services.

"This budget has not answered the needs of the people of this province," the Opposition leader said.

The government debt reduction program was defended in a fiery speech by Premier Bennett.

The premier said the direct provincial debt will be wiped out in the next budget, and then the government will be able to provide more benefits to the people.

## 'Tails You Lose'

**NORTH COWICHAN'S REEVE**  
C. A. P. Murison has no illusions about the new provincial school act clauses covering finance.

The president of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities is blunt in his comment:

"It may be that property owners in some cases will obtain some slight relief this year, but it is quite certain that any such relief will be brief indeed if the government chooses to operate the new formula in a 'heads we win, tails you lose' way. It has reserved itself full powers to do just that."

It is not surprising that Reeve Murison should see through the detail and complexities of the school finance formula to its ultimate purpose. Nor is it surprising that a free-spending Provincial Government should have chosen the present policy.

Mr. Bennett is setting new records for expenditure. While he does, there will be insufficient money to provide adequate relief for the municipalities.

Vast sums are being spent provincially on overhead. A costly highway construction program is biting deep into provincial revenue. Huge sums are going to reduce direct debt so that more money can be borrowed in indirect debt. Public works are dipping further into the public purse.

Money spent in this way cannot be funneled back to the taxpayer, who provides it, in a way to ease the excessive load of school costs.

It is true that the provincial government has announced additional payments to municipalities of \$4,750,000 for school purposes this year. At the same time in Greater Victoria alone the cost of operating

schools in 1958 has jumped almost three-quarters of a million. Moreover, under the new act, the basic share of such costs placed on municipalities has been raised two mills. If there is any relief at all, there is no guarantee to municipalities that they will continue to profit by it.

And as long as senior governments continue to expand their huge expenditures, there is little help available for the home owner. His chances of relief are less now than they have been, since federal revenues are already falling and provincial revenues may be expected to go down.

The result is an anomaly which should be apparent to everyone.

Our society owes its stability largely to the man who builds and owns his own home. The degree to which those homes have been going up in this community is evident to anyone who drives around the residential districts. Once the man has set down his roots, anchored himself with a home of his own, he is taxed on it to a point where he is little more than a tenant of the municipal taxing authorities.

The municipality, in its turn, must impose levies on real estate because that is the basic source of its revenues. The imposition becomes more severe as senior governments are caught in their own commitments and have little money to pass on to the children of the province, the municipalities.

Until the home-owner, and his representative, the elected municipal official, speak with greater effect to the senior government, there will be little relief. Or, as Reeve Murison phrases it, the province will continue to play "heads we win, tails you lose."



N  
C  
IN TH

The premier hit his day night during debate of government's debt reduction.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan moved that the \$12,000,000 which the government has set aside for debt reduction should be devoted to public works projects to increase employment.

"That is what I have been waiting for," cried the premier, leaping to his feet.

"The difference between this government and the CCF and the Liberals and Conservatives is that this government stands for a debt-free province and they don't."

Then, in a ringing 45-minute speech, he reviewed the government's achievements since it came into power in 1952.

"Look at the Pacific Great Eastern Railway!" he cried.

"Look at Wenner-Gren," retorted John Squire (CCF Alberni).

"Yes, my friend," answered the premier, "take a very good look at Wenner-Gren and

## EIGHT-WEEK TO FINISH TH

Prorogation of the for 11 a.m. Thursday,

At that time Lieut. the House to give Roy the marathon eight-we

A few items of bu The House is ex completed,

## Common Sense Talk

**T**HERE ARE ONLY TWO LIBeral members in the Provincial Legislature.

But the size of the representation has not prevented it from providing a great deal of the common sense shown by the legislators in their discussions this session.

Victoria's George Gregory added evidence this week to support that statement. On the Naturopath's bill he fought consistently for a recognition of proper training to equip a person for broad duties in medicine. He spoke for the physicians and

surgeons who have devoted time, study and their own funds to lengthy preparation for the responsibilities they assume. That he failed to halt passage of the bill in no way detracts from the soundness of his case.

This is the same member who presented a workable suggestion for action on strikes in public utilities and who has raised the voice of sanity in many of the deliberations within the House.

British Columbia is fortunate to have men like Gregory in the Legislature, unfortunate that it has not more of his training and ability.

WED., MARCH 18, 1953



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

The premier hit his old electioneering form Tuesday night during debate on a CCF move to stall the government's debt reduction plans.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan moved that the \$12,000,000 which the government has set aside for debt reduction should be devoted to public works projects to increase employment.

"That is what I have been waiting for," cried the premier, leaping to his feet.

"The difference between this government and the CCF and the Liberals and Conservatives is that this government stands for a debt-free province and they don't."

Then, in a ringing 45-minute speech, he reviewed the government's achievements since it came into power in 1952.

"Look at the Pacific Great Eastern Railway!" he cried.

"Look at Wenner-Gren," retorted John Squire (CCF-Alberni).

"Yes, my friend," answered the premier, "take a very good look at Wenner-Gren and

see what it means to our future. I was up in the north country recently and the people there had nothing but praise for Wenner-Gren."

"The first Canadian they had seen up there turned out to be a Swede," remarked Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby).

"Is that any reason to smear the Swedes?" answered the premier.

Scores of school teachers packed the public galleries expecting to hear debate on a government move to combat "blacklisting" of B.C. school districts.

Many left when the debate on estimates dragged on after midnight precluding the school bill.

Recreations Minister Earle Westwood rocked the House with laughter when he said it appeared the CCF members

were trying to "save the game by shooting the bull."

He was referring to a request from Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) for more game conservation work in B.C.

Tony Gargarve (CCF-Mackenzie) mentioned seeing a headline in a Vancouver newspaper which read: "Saskatchewan Bull Wins Championship."

"That's very likely," commented J. Donald Smith (SC-Victoria).

"What are the men chanting for?" asked a 10-year-old Victoria boy when he and 42 other students from grade 5 at Cloverdale Elm public school sat in the Speaker's Gallery.

The members were "chanting" their way through 345 sections of the new Municipal Act—that is shouting "aye" to each section as it was called out by committee chairman Alex Matthew.

"Who is the man who belows louder than anyone else?" asked another boy.

It was, of course, Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi, who owns the biggest voice in the House.

"He should receive a leather medal," commented George Gregory (Liberal-Victoria).

Before the House opened, the youngsters were shown over the chamber by Sergeant-at-Arms Denzil Ashby.

## Few B.C. Indians Indicted Under Code

Relatively few B.C. Indians commit crimes that are indictable under the Criminal Code, a survey has found.

Majority of Indians are committed under liquor clauses. The findings are contained in the eighth annual report of the provincial Indian Advisory Committee presented to the legislature by Labor Minister Wicks.

The report was written by director Joanna R. Wright.

The crime survey was conducted over a six-month period with the aid of the attorney-general's department.

It was found there is a relatively high incidence of crime among uneducated Indians; a normal incidence among elementary school educated and a high incidence among high school educated.

Majority of Indians arrested during the six-month survey period were in the 20-40 age group.

## EIGHT-WEEK SESSION EXPECTED TO FINISH THURSDAY MORNING

Prorogation of the Legislature is tentatively scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday, it was learned today.

At that time Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross will enter the House to give Royal assent to legislation passed during the marathon eight-week session.

A few items of business remain to be cleared up.

The House is expected to sit tonight until it is all completed.

## NEW REALTORS' STATUS

A bill designed to raise the standards of the real estate business was given second reading—approval in principle—by the legislature Tuesday.

The legislation modernizes the present statute dealing with real estate agents and salesmen, and is the result of an inquiry made in 1955 by the Association of Real Estate Boards.

It provides for a licensing system that will give real estate agents semi-professional status.



# Blacklisting Ban Law Goes Through

By PETER MURRAY  
Times Legislative Reporter

The government's new Public Schools Act—with a contentious measure aimed at ending blacklisting of school districts by teachers—was passed by the legislature early today after a five-hour debate.

A last-ditch attempt by the Opposition to have the section withdrawn was voted down shortly after midnight.

One government backbencher, Comox MLA Dan Campbell, a teacher, ducked out of the House before the vote was taken.

He returned a few minutes later, however, and voted with the Opposition against the government on a second CCF motion that the decision be reconsidered.

All sections of the act passed with little or no discussion, except for the amendment which will withdraw teachers' closed shop privileges until the blacklisting threat is removed.

The bill as a whole was passed unanimously.

Opposition members charged the government was attempting to "bludgeon" the teachers.

CCF Leader Robert Strachan accused the government of "union-busting."

## TROUBLE, HEARTACHE

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) said the measure will cause "nothing but trouble and heartache."

"You're not going to keep the schools open by using this type of legislation against the teachers," he said. "You won't gain one single recruit by telling them to 'scab' against their fellow teachers."

Education Minister Peterson

denied he was taking sides in the dispute.

"We are not urging teachers to cancel their membership in the B.C. Teachers' Federation," the minister said. "That isn't the point at all."

The closed-shop provision is being lifted so that boards in blacklisted districts will be able to hire teachers to keep the schools open, Mr. Peterson said. "I hope this will be very temporary," he said.

The minister said the present situation is a "great challenge" to the teachers to establish their professional responsibilities in the eyes of the public.

"I can't feel the things going on today are consistent with professional responsibilities," he said.

## REAL LOSER

Mr. Campbell, speaking during the afternoon debate on the bill, said it is impossible to fix blame in the present dispute.

"Education is the real loser in what has happened in the last few months," he said.

The government should not do anything more than act as a mediator in the dispute, he said.

Mr. Campbell urged the minister to get the teachers and trustees together "as soon as possible—tomorrow morning."

The Social Credit member said it was dangerous for the government to become involved at the top level of a dispute that is being carried on at the local levels.

"I am very unhappy about the good bill the minister has presented," Mr. Campbell said. "I hope the shadow that hangs over the bill will not be there any longer than necessary."

When the first vote was

Continued on Page 6

## SCHOOL ACT

Continued from Page 1

called at midnight, Mr. Campbell slipped out a side door beside his back-row seat.

Opposition members protested he should not have been allowed to leave the chamber after the division was ordered, but they were overruled by chairman Frank Richter (SC, Similkameen).

"The proof of the pudding is in the walking out," commented Mr. Strachan.

But after the vote was completed, Mr. Campbell returned to the House and was caught by the second division called by the CCF.

Later Mr. Campbell said outside the chamber:

"I think it's a good act and I have extreme confidence in the minister, but I cannot, in all conscience, support the amendment."

It was the second time during the session that a Social Credit member has dodged out of the House to avoid voting against the government.

Three backbenchers—Cyril Shelford, Irvine Corbett and Fred Sharp—did it when a CCF motion of non-confidence in Attorney-General Bonner over his handling of the Sommers case was put to a vote.

Attacking the government measure, Mr. Harding said it would only make a serious situation worse.

School boards will not be encouraged to carry on negotiations with teachers because of the belief they can staff schools next fall from outside the profession, he said.

Mr. Harding said he would "rather quit teaching than break the code of ethics set up by the federation."

Mr. Strachan proposed that salary arbitration provisions of the new act be enforced in districts where there are now contract disputes.

This would eliminate the present situation of "blacklisting" by the teachers and "pinklisting" by the trustees until the new negotiation and conciliation provisions come into effect next September, the CCF leader said.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

## RESTRICTS FREEDOMS

Mr. Strachan said the open-shop measure has the same effect as the deleted clause in the new act which would have made blacklisting unlawful.

"That is to restrict freedom of speech and civil liberties."

Referring to the first clause which the government decided to delete at the last minute, Mr. Strachan said:

"It makes me shudder that the government would put in black and white such a piece of legislation."

Urging Education Minister Peterson to reconsider the substituted proposal withholding the closed-shop until the teachers agree not to blacklist, the CCF leader said:

"What he couldn't do through the front door, he is now attempting to do through the back door."

Mr. Strachan said the arbitration clauses of the new act could be made retroactive to Jan. 1.

"Instead of bulgeoning one group into submission until Sept. 1, we can use these sections to get us over the hurdle," he said.

As an alternative proposal, Mr. Strachan suggested the government could "pick up the tab" for increased salaries in the 26 school districts now in dispute.

## ERRORS BY BOTH SIDES

George Gregory (Lib-Victoria) also criticized the latest government attempt to end blacklisting.

"This open shop proposal is not going to promote the best interests of the children," Mr. Gregory said.

Errors by both the teachers and the school trustees have led to the present impasse, he said, and it was not right for the

government to "bludgeon" the teachers.

"The closed shop is one of the things that has contributed to the high standards we now enjoy in our schools," the Liberal member said.

Mr. Gregory said he could not agree with Mr. Strachan that the new bargaining procedure will necessarily end the present troubles.

"We must look beyond Sept. 1," he said.

The Liberal member said the closed-shop section of the new act should be proclaimed now, but that the government should make it clear it may review the section within the next year "to see if the teachers deserve a closed shop."

BENNETT, STRACHAN

## Pay for Op

Under the British system of parliament an opposition is as essential as a government, Premier Bennett told the Legislature early today.

He spoke in support of an allowance of \$3,500 to CCF leader Robert Strachan, which came up during supplementary estimates.

"By far the most important part of the Opposition is its leader and he is called on for study, research and great responsibility," the Premier said.

"Every member of this House appreciates what a difficult role he fulfills."

Replied Mr. Strachan: "I thank the Premier for giving the Opposition this consideration and I hope it redounds to the good of the province as well."

## Courts to Get Broader Leeway On Drunkenness

Elimination of the \$20 minimum fine for drunkenness and institution of a \$50 maximum instead is contained in legislation approved in the legislature Wednesday.

Officials of the attorney-general's department said the amendments to the Liquor Act will give magistrates more leeway.

Court regulars on drunk charges were getting the \$2 minimum in many cases as well as first offenders, it was stated.

In the future there will be no minimum fine for intoxication.

Black, also a former teacher, said the government had to get up to the problem.

"I hope that common sense will prevail on both sides," the minister said.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said the government's handling of the problem "smacks of immaturity."

The minister of education allowed himself to be drawn into the middle of the debate and had taken sides, Mr. Squire said. The government's actions are stirring up animosity.

Attorney-General Bonner said the teacher's blacklisting could mean the closing of schools.

"I think that the bulk of teachers of this province are not anxious to be in that position," Mr. Bonner said.

Defending the lifting of the closed shop clause, the attorney-general said if teachers are not required to be in the profession "a number of

## BENNETT, STRACHAN AGREE

### Pay for Opposition Head Voted

Under the British system of parliament an opposition is as essential as a government, Premier Bennett told the Legislature early today.

He spoke in support of an allowance of \$3,500 to CCF leader Robert Strachan, which came up during supplementary estimates.

"By far the most important part of the Opposition is its leader and he is called on for study, research and great responsibility," the Premier said.

"Every member of this House appreciates what a difficult role he fulfills."

Replied Mr. Strachan: "I thank the Premier for giving the Opposition this consideration and I hope it redounds to the good of the province as well."

### Courts to Get Broader Leeway On Drunkenness

Elimination of the \$20 minimum fine for drunkenness and institution of a \$50 maximum instead is contained in legislation approved in the legislature Wednesday.

Officials of the attorney-general's department said the amendments to the Liquor Act will give magistrates more leeway.

Court regulars on drunk charges were getting the \$20 minimum in many cases as well as first offenders, it was stated.

In the future there will be no minimum fine for intoxication.

### Socreds Accused Of 'Steamrolling'

A brief, bitter protest against Social Credit "steamroller" tactics marked the closing 90 minutes of the B.C. legislative session today, during which the government voted down eight bills introduced by members of the Opposition.

All eight were sponsored by the CCF, and dealt mainly with labor problems.

Said Cedric Cox (CCF Burnaby) as he prepared to introduce the fifth bill of the day: "The Government steamroller is really rolling today."

From the government side of the house came a chorus of shouts and "toot-toot" sound effects.

Said Mr. Cox, when order was restored: "I protest strongly these steamroller tactics. And the steamroller is really in high gear. Apparently in the view of this government labor is so unimportant labor legislation is left to the last one-and-one-half hours of the house."

#### TEMPERS SHORT

There were short-tempered vocal brushes between CCF members—especially Leo Nimsick, who introduced four of

the eight bills—and Attorney-General Robert Bonner, who was acting premier in the dying minutes as Premier Bennett prepared to welcome the lieutenant-governor who conducted the prorogation ceremony.

Mr. Nimsick wound up speaking on a point of privilege under which he objected to lack of information in answer to questions long filed on the order paper.

He referred in particular to lack of information on the airplane used by Highway Minister P. A. Gaglardi.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan joined the fray to say: "I hope after its experience this year, the government will be able to answer questions in the future. The delay in answering questions which were on the order paper on the very first day is disgraceful."

Attorney-General Bonner replied: "If my friend can control his temper, we will recess to receive the lieutenant-governor."

Mr. Speaker restored order with Mr. Gaglardi on his feet attempting to speak.

Division bells rang once during the morning, on a bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, introduced by Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East). Standing vote was on a straight government-opposition count, 34 to 14 against second reading.

The House recessed at 11.50 a.m.

### Schultz Acted For 15 Firms Asking FMLs

C. D. Schultz & Co. Ltd. represented a total of 15 firms applying for forest management licences between 1952 and 1957, Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston has reported to the legislature.

The firm and its head now is awaiting trial on a charge of bribery-conspiracy along with former Forests Minister R. E. Sommers and other firms and individuals.

Of the 15 applications, three licences were awarded; decision was reserved on another two; permission to advertise granted for seven; and three were rejected.

The successful applications were by Evans Products Ltd., Tahsis Company Ltd., and B.C. Forest Products, which is one of the firms charged in the case.

The information was supplied by Mr. Williston in answer to a question placed on the House order paper by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

### Legislative Committees To Carry On

Two legislative committees unable to complete their work during the session will carry on afterwards.

Special legislation was introduced Wednesday night to provide that the members of committees studying juvenile delinquency and medical fees for welfare cases be paid for continuing their study.

Members of the juvenile delinquency committee are expected to meet again sometime next month to prepare their report.

#### GROUP WILL TRAVEL

In the meantime they will visit institutions for the treatment of juvenile offenders and study briefs presented during hearings over the last few weeks.

The medical fees committee must reach a decision by the end of April whether the government should increase its payments to the B.C. Medical Association.

If it does not, the association has threatened to end its agreement with the government for treatment of welfare patients.

Black, also a former teacher, said the government had to face up to the problem.

"I hope that common sense will prevail on both sides" the minister said.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said the government's handling of the problem "smacks of immaturity."

The minister of education had allowed himself to be dragged into the middle of the dispute and had taken sides, Mr. Squire said. The government's actions are stirring up animosity.

Attorney-General Bonner said the teacher's blacklisting action could mean the closure of schools.

"I think that the bulk of the teachers of this province are not anxious to be in that situation," Mr. Bonner said.

Defending the lifting of the closed shop clause, the attorney-general said if teachers were not required to be in the federation "a number of them

would want to offer their services."

"We have proposed something here—no one is particularly happy with it—but no one has come up with an alternative solution."

Mr. Bonner said "pinklisting" by school boards is just as bad as blacklisting.

He said the action of the federation in taking advertisements in British newspapers to warn prospective teachers of the situation in B.C. could lead to the complete failure of the government's recruiting program.

#### WAR ON TEACHERS

J. Donald Smith (SC-Victoria) said the government should have taken action to bring the school trustees in line as well as the teachers by having a provision against pink-listing.

Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) said the government's action was a "declaration of war on the teachers."

"That's the most irresponsible statement made in this House,"

said Highways Minister Gaglardi.

Mr. Nimsick said the government through its finance formula had placed school boards in an impossible position.

"The government should take a greater share of the cost," the CCF member said.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston, formerly minister of education and another teacher, said Mr. Peterson was taking the only action he could to meet the situation.

Mr. Williston said he had faith in the common sense of the teachers and the trustees that they will reach an agreement.

"The teachers will never run," he said, "they've got a job to do, the most important in B.C."

The former minister said school boards and the federation knew in advance the government intended to raise its basic teacher salary grant scale, and should not have allowed themselves to get into the present impasse.



# Legislature Prorogued, Drama Marked Sitzings

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

By PETER MURRAY  
Times Legislative Reporter

Second session of B.C.'s 25th legislature was prorogued at noon today by Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross.

The lieutenant-governor gave royal assent to 73 bills passed during the eight-week session, longest since 1954.

The weary legislators sat for one and one-half hours this morning cleaning up tag ends of the session, after sitting until 2.15 a.m. to approve the new Public Schools Act and deal with private members' resolutions and bills.

Premier Bennett insisted throughout that the session was one of the quietest on record, but few observers agreed.

## FIREWORKS OFTEN

There were fireworks almost every day for the first two weeks, a slackening off during the estimates, then more excitement at the end over the Public Schools Act.

The drama of the session was heightened by two events in the background — the federal election campaign and the bribery-conspiracy hearing of former forests minister Robert Sommers and other individuals and companies.

Mr. Sommers attended the

session as the Social Credit member for Rossland-Trail and took an active part in the debates.

The session was marked by obvious signs of restiveness in the government caucus.

A number of Social Credit backbenchers spoke out against government policies, attacked cabinet ministers and in a few instances voted with the opposition.

## CROSSED FLOOR

The first crack in the government ranks came Feb. 3 when North Vancouver MLA J. Melvin Bryan crossed the floor of the House to sit as an independent.

Just five days earlier Mr. Bryan demanded that Attorney-General Bonner resign over his handling of the Sommers case.

When the government took no action on his demand, Mr. Bryan said he had no alternative but to cross the floor and quit the Social Credit party to show his "complete lack of confidence" in the Bennett administration.

When the North Vancouver member had taken his seat with the Opposition, Premier Bennett, with an uncharacteristic loss of composure, bitterly attacked Mr. Bryan.

The premier charged that Mr. Bryan had packed his nominating convention in 1956, and said he had had "many warnings" about him.

Other government backbenchers were reported to share Mr. Bryan's feelings about the attorney-general, but none supported his stand in the House.

## DUCKED VOTE

Three backbenchers, however, significantly ducked out on a vote on a CCF motion of non-confidence in Mr. Bonner.

They were Cyril Shelford, Irvine Corbett and Fred Sharp, who left the House just before the vote was called.

The non-confidence motion was presented by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan during consideration of the attorney-general's salary vote. Mr. Strachan moved that his salary be reduced.

The motion was defeated after a 2½-hour debate, the stormiest of the session.

Three other government members—Cyril Shelford, John Tisdalle and Frank Richter—spoke out against government agriculture policies.

One, Mr. Shelford, charged

Continued on Page 14

## ... LEGISLATURE

Continued from Page 1  
that Agriculture Minister Steacy was not showing enough leadership.

Mr. Steacy retorted that the plain-spoken Omineca member was "jealous" because he wasn't appointed agriculture minister, but Mr. Shelford said he thought the job should have gone to Mr. Richter.

It had been predicted the session would be concerned mainly with forestry following the release of the Sloan Royal Commission report last fall, but there was surprisingly little debate on this subject.

Opposition members directed their main fire at reductions in the civil service, particularly in provincial mental institutions.

The most contentious piece of legislation was a clause in the new Public Schools Act designed to end blacklisting by teachers by lifting their closed shop privileges.

The new act was introduced late in the session, and a five-hour debate was required before it was passed early today.

The Act contains revisions to the basic B.C. education finance formula to provide for greater contributions by the provincial government.

It also sets out a new step-by-step bargaining procedure in an attempt to end the present unsatisfactory system.

## SETS LIMIT

New forestry legislation implemented some of the recommendations of former Chief Justice Gordon Sloan in his commission report.

It set a 21-year limit on future forest management licences; changed the name of these licences to "tree-farm licences"; made timber sale "blackmail" illegal; and also provided that Mr. Sloan, now the government's full-time forests adviser, shall hear all future licence applications.

The mining legislation represented a compromise by the government with industry over amendments passed at the 1957 session abolishing Crown-granted mineral claims.

To give the mining industry more security of tenure, leases will be on a 21-year basis and prospectors will be able to hold on to their claims indefinitely by carrying out certain work requirements.

Other "compromise" legislation was included in the more than 300 amendments to the new Municipal Act passed last spring.

Principal change was to restore control of shops and service station hours to municipalities and merchants' groups.

Two other bills introduced by the government provided controversy — one giving naturopaths jurisdiction over their own affairs and another paying the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

## Dental Technicians Criticized

Opposition to dental technicians being given the right to deal directly with the public was voiced in the legislature Wednesday by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

Mr. Gregory said the technicians have "not earned the right to be recognized as a lawful group" because they have been defying the law by selling dentures illegally.

"Before they earn professional status, they should show they are responsible by obeying the law," the Liberal member said. "These people have not done so."

Mr. Gregory referred to the bill dealing with naturopaths presented by the government at this session and charged:

"I believe this government is leading the people backward on

## Civil Service Bill Meets

Three private bills introduced by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria), including one which would give full bargaining rights to civil servants, were d

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

## Dental Technician Bill Criticized by Gregory

Opposition to dental technicians being given the right to deal directly with the public was voiced in the legislature Wednesday by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

Mr. Gregory said the technicians have "not earned the right to be recognized as a lawful group" because they have been defying the law by selling dentures illegally.

"Before they earn professional status, they should show they are responsible by obeying the law," the Liberal member said. "These people have not done so."

Mr. Gregory referred to the bill dealing with naturopaths presented by the government at this session and charged:

"I believe this government is leading the people backward on

the road of public health rather than forward."

His remarks were made during second reading of a bill which paves the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

The bill provides for the setting up of a board of examiners to licence technicians. All provisions are subject to proclamation by the cabinet however, and the cabinet retains final control.

Health Minister Eric Martin described the bill as a "sensible, middle-of-the-road approach to the problem."

The object of the bill is to safeguard the health of the province, the minister said.

### DEBATE SAID STIFLED

## Omnibus Bill Draws Concern of CCFers

A CCF member of the legislature charged Wednesday that a new "omnibus" bill introduced by the government this week stifles debate.

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) said the method of putting amendments to a number of separate statutes in one bill prevents discussion of the principle of the original act.

"This is one of the most extraordinary bills ever to come before this House," Mr. Dowding said.

"What I am concerned about is a principle that I don't want abused."

### WHOLE ACT OPENED

Under the omnibus bill, only the specific amendments can be considered, the CCF member said. If a separate bill is brought in for each amendment, then the whole act being amended is open for debate.

Mr. Dowding said he could appreciate the need for an omnibus bill if it was just used for "house-keeping" amend-

ments in revision of the statutes.

"We would not permit this at any other time than when we are revising the statutes," he said.

(The statutes are being revised this year, the first time since 1948.)

Attorney-General Bonner, who submitted the bill, said similar procedure is in other legislatures. He denied that it stifles debate.

"This is not a type of bill I particularly favor," Mr. Bonner added.

The bill was given second reading — approval in principle — at the afternoon sitting.

## Civil Service Rights Bill Meets Defeat

Three private bills introduced by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria), including one which would give full bargaining rights to civil servants, were de-

feated in the legislature overnight.

The civil service bill would have placed government employees under the Labor Relations Act, but would have made conciliation board awards binding on both sides.

A second bill would have forced the Workmen's Compensation Board to accept a specialists diagnosis in silicosis cases.

### FIGHT FOR ZUCCO

By making the provision retroactive to 1955, it would have given a back pension to miner Jack Zucco, now reported to be dying from silicosis.

Mrs. Zucco picketed the legislature buildings last year and in 1956 seeking government action to obtain the pension for her husband.

This bill was supported by the CCF when the vote was taken.

The two Liberal members were the only supporters of Mr. Gregory's other bill which would have restored Crown-granted mineral claims in place of a new leasing system.



# Legislature Prorogued, Drama Marked Sitzings

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

By PETER MURRAY  
Times Legislative Reporter  
Second session of B.C.'s 25th legislature was prorogued at noon today by Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross.

The lieutenant-governor gave royal assent to 73 bills passed during the eight-week session, longest since 1954.

The weary legislators sat for one and one-half hours this morning cleaning up tag ends of the session, after sitting until 2.15 a.m. to approve the new Public Schools Act and deal with private members' resolutions and bills.

Premier Bennett insisted throughout that the session was one of the quietest on record, but few observers agreed.

## FIREWORKS OFTEN

There were fireworks almost every day for the first two weeks, a slackening off during the estimates, then more excitement at the end over the Public Schools Act.

The drama of the session was heightened by two events in the background — the federal election campaign and the bribery-conspiracy hearing of former forests minister Robert Sommers and other individuals and companies.

Mr. Sommers attended the

session as the Social Credit member for Rossland-Trail and took an active part in the debates.

The session was marked by obvious signs of restiveness in the government caucus.

A number of Social Credit backbenchers spoke out against government policies, attacked cabinet ministers and in a few instances voted with the opposition.

## CROSSED FLOOR

The first crack in the government ranks came Feb. 3 when North Vancouver MLA J. Melvin Bryan crossed the floor of the House to sit as an independent.

Just five days earlier Mr. Bryan demanded that Attorney-General Bonner resign over his handling of the Sommers case.

When the government took no action on his demand, Mr. Bryan said he had no alternative but cross the floor and quit the Social Credit party to show his "complete lack of confidence" in the Bennett administration.

When the North Vancouver member had taken his seat with the Opposition, Premier Bennett, with an uncharacteristic loss of composure, bitterly attacked Mr. Bryan.

The premier charged that Mr. Bryan had packed his nominating convention in 1956, and said he had had "many warnings" about him.

Other government backbenchers were reported to share Mr. Bryan's feelings about the attorney-general, but none supported his stand in the House.

## DUCKED VOTE

Three backbenchers, however, significantly ducked out on a vote on a CCF motion of non-confidence in Mr. Bonner.

They were Cyril Shelford, Irvine Corbett and Fred Sharp, who left the House just before the vote was called.

The non-confidence motion was presented by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan during consideration of the attorney-general's salary vote. Mr. Strachan moved that his salary be reduced.

The motion was defeated after a 2½-hour debate, the stormiest of the session.

Three other government members—Cyril Shelford, John Tisdalle and Frank Richter—spoke out against government agriculture policies.

One, Mr. Shelford, charged

Continued on Page 14

## ... LEGISLATURE

Continued from Page 1  
that Agriculture Minister Steacy was not showing enough leadership.

Mr. Steacy retorted that the plain-spoken Omineca member was "jealous" because he wasn't appointed agriculture minister, but Mr. Shelford said he thought the job should have gone to Mr. Richter.

It had been predicted the session would be concerned mainly with forestry following the release of the Sloan Royal Commission report last fall, but there was surprisingly little debate on this subject.

Opposition members directed their main fire at reductions in the civil service, particularly in provincial mental institutions.

The most contentious piece of legislation was a clause in the new Public Schools Act designed to end blacklisting by teachers by lifting their closed shop privileges.

The new act was introduced late in the session, and a five-hour debate was required before it was passed early today.

The Act contains revisions to the basic B.C. education finance formula to provide for greater contributions by the provincial government.

It also sets out a new step-by-step bargaining procedure in an attempt to end the present unsatisfactory system.

## SETS LIMIT

New forestry legislation implemented some of the recommendations of former Chief Justice Gordon Sloan in his commission report.

It set a 21-year limit on future forest management licences; changed the name of these licences to "tree-farm licences"; made timber sale "blackmail" illegal; and also provided that Mr. Sloan, now the government's full-time forests adviser, shall hear all future licence applications.

The mining legislation represented a compromise by the government with industry over amendments passed at the 1957 session abolishing Crown-granted mineral claims.

To give the mining industry more security of tenure, leases will be on a 21-year basis and prospectors will be able to hold on to their claims indefinitely by carrying out certain work requirements.

Other "compromise" legislation was included in the more than 300 amendments to the new Municipal Act passed last spring.

Principal change was to restore control of shops and service station hours to municipalities and merchants' groups.

Two other bills introduced by the government provided controversy — one giving naturopaths jurisdiction over their own affairs and another paying the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

## Dental Technicians Criticized

Opposition to dental technicians being given the right to deal directly with the public was voiced in the legislature Wednesday by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

Mr. Gregory said the technicians have "not earned the right to be recognized as a lawful group" because they have been defying the law by selling dentures illegally.

"Before they earn professional status, they should show they are responsible by obeying the law," the Liberal member said. "These people have not done so."

Mr. Gregory referred to the bill dealing with naturopaths presented by the government at this session and charged:

"I believe this government is leading the people backward on

## BUDGET

The "belt-tightening" budget brought down by Premier Bennett as finance minister Feb. 7 called for expenditures of \$284,000,000 in the coming fiscal year.

This represents a \$12,000,000 drop from the budget for the current year, largely because of a smaller allocation for supplementary debt reduction.

Main feature of the budget was a new plan for provincial guarantee of municipal water and sewer bonds. Social assistance allowances were increased and the municipal 70 cents per diem hospital charge was eliminated.

Another dramatic moment came when a mob of 300 Vancouver Island dairymen, angered by a Milk Board decision eliminating their special price differential, stormed the legislature.

The placard-bearing farmers milked a cow on the steps leading up to the main entrance and banged on the doors of the chamber to attract the attention of the government.

## PRODUCED SPLIT

The report of a six-man investigating team which looked into the Hoxsey cancer treatment claims was tabled during the session, and produced a split among the members.

The committee found that the treatments are useless and in some cases might be harmful.

A number of MLAs on both sides of the House protested that the committee inquiry had not been thorough enough, and urged a continuing study.

The session was marked by some sharp criticism of the press by government members.

Premier Bennett charged that newspapers were "misinterpreting" the people by misinterpreting events. Reporters had sensationalized the speech of Mr. Bryan attacking the attorney-general, the premier said.

Because of dissatisfaction with newspaper accounts of legislature proceedings, the Social Credit League hired a radio announcer and party member to give a paid, five-minute broadcast over a number of B.C. stations.

## Civil Servants Bill Meets

Three private bills introduced by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria), including one which would give full bargaining rights to civil servants, were discussed.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

## Dental Technician Bill Criticized by Gregory

Opposition to dental technicians being given the right to deal directly with the public was voiced in the legislature Wednesday by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria).

Mr. Gregory said the technicians have "not earned the right to be recognized as a lawful group" because they have been defying the law by selling dentures illegally.

"Before they earn professional status, they should show they are responsible by obeying the law," the Liberal member said. "These people have not done so."

Mr. Gregory referred to the bill dealing with naturopaths presented by the government at this session and charged:

"I believe this government is leading the people backward on

the road of public health rather than forward."

His remarks were made during second reading of a bill which paves the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

The bill provides for the setting up of a board of examiners to licence technicians. All provisions are subject to proclamation by the cabinet however, and the cabinet retains final control.

Health Minister Eric Martin described the bill as a "sensible, middle-of-the-road approach to the problem."

The object of the bill is to safeguard the health of the province, the minister said.

### DEBATE SAID STIFLED

## Omnibus Bill Draws Concern of CCFers

A CCF member of the legislature charged Wednesday that a new "omnibus" bill introduced by the government this week stifles debate.

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Bur-naby) said the method of putting amendments to a number of separate statutes in one bill prevents discussion of the principle of the original act.

"This is one of the most extraordinary bills ever to come before this House," Mr. Dowding said.

"What I am concerned about is a principle that I don't want abused."

### WHOLE ACT OPENED

Under the omnibus bill, only the specific amendments can be considered, the CCF member said. If a separate bill is brought in for each amendment, then the whole act being amended is open for debate.

Mr. Dowding said he could appreciate the need for an omnibus bill if it was just used for "house-keeping" amend-

ments in revision of the statutes.

"We would not permit this at any other time than when we are revising the statutes," he said.

(The statutes are being revised this year, the first time since 1948.)

Attorney-General Bonner, who submitted the bill, said similar procedure is in other legislatures. He denied that it stifles debate.

"This is not a type of bill I particularly favor," Mr. Bonner added.

The bill was given second reading — approval in principle — at the afternoon sitting.

## Civil Service Rights Bill Meets Defeat

Three private bills introduced by George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria), including one which would give full bargaining rights to civil servants, were de-

feated in the legislature overnight.

The civil service bill would have placed government employees under the Labor Relations Act, but would have made conciliation board awards binding on both sides.

A second bill would have forced the Workmen's Compensation Board to accept a specialists diagnosis in silicosis cases.

### FIGHT FOR ZUCCO

By making the provision retroactive to 1955, it would have given a back pension to miner Jack Zucco, now reported to be dying from silicosis.

Mrs. Zucco picketed the legislature buildings last year and in 1956 seeking government action to obtain the pension for her husband.

This bill was supported by the CCF when the vote was taken.

The two Liberal members were the only supporters of Mr. Gregory's other bill which would have restored Crown-granted mineral claims in place of a new leasing system.



THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958



## NORMAN CRIBBENS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Out-of-town members of the legislature saw the lights of home through the musty haze that hung over the chamber today when Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross put the royal seal on a gruelling nine-week session.

And those who live in Victoria and vicinity were just as glad to see it ended.

"Now we can get down to work instead of talk," commented Herbert Bruch, the tall totem-like member for Esquimalt.

Mr. Bruch is a full-time MLA and when the session is over he doesn't have to rush back to another job.

★ ★ ★  
The house sat until 2.15 a.m. clearing up public and private bills and resolutions and re-assembled at 10.30 today for unfinished business.

★ ★ ★  
While the contentious Dental Technicians Bill was being argued, Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) remarked:

"This is something we can really get our teeth into—if we have any left."

During debate on the Public Schools Act, Education Minister Leslie Peterson said:

"I expect teachers to be alert to material considerations such as salaries."

"So you want to give them a candy-coated pill," answered Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook).

Mr. Peterson: "I don't know what you mean."

andolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan): "If there are empty schools next year, you will be blamed for this legislation."

Mr. Peterson: "I expect to be blamed anyway."

"Let's put father back at the head of the family," urged J. Donald Smith (SC, Victoria). "Let the principal be the head of the school and its guiding light as he used to be."

★ ★ ★  
Most people agree that B.C. badly needs secondary industries to back up its basic industries.

Irvine Corbett, the Social Credit member for Yale, reveals that a champagne cider industry is soon to start at Princeton.

This new "secondary" product will be sold in B.C. liquor stores in cartons of six 12-ounce bottles and will be produced by the Princeton Brewing Company.

★ ★ ★  
"Myself when young did eagerly frequent

"Doctor and Saint, and heard great Argument

"About it and about: but evermore

"Came out by the same Door as in I went."

—Omar Khayyam.  
Reporters often feel that

way after years of listening to speeches in the House. One of them is James Morton, who worked in the press gallery here from 1908 to 1920 and from then until 1927 as assistant to Premier John Oliver.

Re-visiting his old haunts, Mr. Morton said:

"The atmosphere is much the same and you hear similar arguments adapted to the issues of the day."

"The interchange of viewpoint is as fascinating as ever."

Mr. Morton represented the Vancouver World and the Vancouver News-Advertiser and was president of the press gallery in 1908.

★ ★ ★  
Leigh Hill, one of the smartly-uniformed pages who run messages in the legislature, is editor of "Eight Ball," a brightly-written mimeographed newspaper produced by the boys in Grade 8 at St. Louis College, Victoria.

Other members of the staff are Donald Beach, Don MacDonald, Wayne Hendry, B. Van Munster, Gary Albany, Richard Howell, Ron Jordens, Terry Mann, Norman Cox and J. Yellowway.

"Just a few weeks ago we hit on the idea of a class newspaper," quiet-spoken Leigh Hill said. "We held a meeting and elected editors for all departments. We've had no end of fun out of this paper."

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1958

## Session of Dissension

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE has prorogued after a session more noted for the stresses and strains revealed within the Government than for spectacular achievement in legislation.

There have been accomplishments.

Mining law was altered in an attempt to win back development interests frightened away by regulations of the preceding session.

A real effort was made to curb mounting current expenditure, at the same time that capital spending plans were expanded with the Government underwriting costs which Mr. Bennett does not consider to be debt.

In the vital field of forestry, the Government went ahead with a policy based on the appointment of the Hon. Gordon Sloan as advisor. It took specific and necessary action against "blackmail" in timber sales; altered the terms of forest management licenses to grant them for 21 years on a renewable basis instead of making them perpetual; significantly refused the tax reduction urged by its Royal Commissioner and the hard-pressed timber industry; and rejected Mr. Sloan's recommendations for more administrative staff and more money for the Forest Service.

The results of the new school act and certain new financial aid to the municipalities remained in doubt, but municipal leaders showed no overwhelming enthusiasm for the adjusted formula.

Under strong pressure, the Government modified its welfare program retrenchment drive, though not to the degree many conscientious British Columbians sought.

Finally, the Government left with the Minister of Education the task of trying to reconcile school boards and the B.C. Teachers' Federation in their controversy over wage scales. In this particular the administration seemed to be trying to quench the fire by pouring gasoline on it.

These were the major practical steps taken by the Legislature. From

a point of public interest they were far outweighed by political developments.

Dissidence within the Government was graphically illustrated by the action of Mr. Melvin Bryan, who crossed the floor in protest against the Attorney-General's handling of the Sommers affair. The internal strains of Social Credit were further reflected in criticism from other government supporters and attacks, too, on the minister of agriculture.

Mr. Bennett was clearly in trouble. An Opposition recovering from the heavy blows of the last provincial election came to life during the session.

In earlier days the Government had been able to crush criticism by the weight of numbers and a solid front. The numbers remained, but solidarity was impaired. Mr. Strachan found means to press attacks against the Government's weak spots, bringing to his task a greater confidence and wider knowledge of affairs.

The Liberals, also, were effective out of all proportion to their small numbers.

The developing weakness and division within Government ranks seems to be part and parcel of the Social Credit recession on the broader front.

Mr. Bennett failed to impart the air of assurance so marked when he led his party to victory provincially last year—an air of assurance which began to dissipate when his "March on Ottawa" went into reverse on June 10.

Adding to the apparent recession of his party in the session just completed were the adverse effects of an economic dip—for which the government is not responsible—but which impairs the facade that good times have given to Mr. Bennett's administration.

British Columbia and Alberta have been the redoubts of Social Credit in Canada. The record of the provincial session can have added little, if any, strength to the fortress. It will be interesting to see what the reaction will be in terms of federal votes at the end of this month.



**M A R**

**1 9 5 8**

## No room for the 'seriously indolent'

Revision of the B.C. School Act to give local authorities greater power to expel "incorrigible and objectionable" students has been urged by a Victoria delegation headed by school principal B. C. Gillie which appeared before the Legislature's committee on juvenile delinquency this week.

The problem of the indolent, unco-operative, time-wasting pupil has been increasingly disturbing many communities. In Calgary a definite procedure for expelling such students has been in practice for several years, and the "Calgary Plan" has been spreading to other cities in Canada and the United States.

Latest to announce a similar stand is the Winnipeg School Board, which has decided that indolent students 16 years old or more can be ejected if they fail to show improvement in their attitude toward school work.

Winnipeg will "expel those students whose conduct is prejudicial to the welfare of the school." A board spokesman said there were 107 such students in the "seriously indolent" category, of whom about 27 are likely to be tossed out because they will not reform.

The problem of the lazy, anti-social, trouble-making, time-wasting pupil grows more acute with the rising costs of education and the increasing headache of providing accommodation for all students. The lazy student wastes the teachers' time

and the taxpayers' money. He requires extra attention from teachers and administrators, and he interferes with and discourages the education of good students.

As the Victoria delegation pointed out, the persistent delinquent can contaminate other students, particularly the borderline behavior cases who tend to hero-worship of the delinquent type.

The problem facing educators and social workers is whether the indolent youth might become even more of a menace and cost to society if he were put out to roam the streets instead of "warming a seat" under school supervision, where he is at least exposed to good influences. Because of this dilemma many cities, including Vancouver, have been hesitant to kick youths of this type out of school.

Vancouver's school board has, however, evolved a "voluntary" system of withdrawals, worked out at the school level between counsellors, principals and parents. Last year Vancouver expelled only one student, but approximately 100 more were voluntarily withdrawn by their parents at the request of principals.

The decision of the school boards of Winnipeg, Calgary and many more communities indicates that many educators have decided there is no place in school for the incorrigible youngsters who flatly refuse to study or submit to discipline.

## Industry okays changes

Proposed changes in B.C. forest management won initial approval from the industry.

There was only guarded comment, however, on the proposed 21-year time limit on licences, and on the hearing of applications by government forest adviser Gordon Sloan.

Proposed amendments to the Forestry Act were put before the legislature Friday afternoon by Forestry Minister Williston.

R. M. SHAW, president of MacMillan & Bloedel, said the change from issuance of licences from "in perpetuity" to renegotiation every 21 years "should be reasonable if the renegotiation conditions are reasonable."

He said on reference of licence application to Sloan, seems to be in the public interest.

Mr. Shaw would not comment on the lack of new tax concessions.

B. J. KEELEY, president of Empire Mills said "the amendments appear to be pretty logical thinking."

He said the "21-year" provision "sounds like a very good thing but a lot can happen in 21 years."

"We didn't think Mr. Sloan would hear applications," Mr. Keeley said, "but thought that he would only be in an advisory capacity."

"I THINK the forest service itself should be able to advise whether licences should be accepted or not," he said. "It's not quite what we thought it was going to be and I would like to study the provisions."

"But Mr. Sloan is a fair man and is pretty familiar with the whole subject."

Mr. Keeley would like to have seen "something on taxation."

A TRUCK LOGGERS' Association spokesman declined to comment until association members had a chance to study the provisions.

A spokesman for Crown Zellerbach Canada Ltd. said the proposed changes "appear to be in line with the thinking of the Sloan commission and as such should be in the public interest."

## Three Soc

## Born in

## Move on of bribe

VICTORIA (CP) — The benchers walked out of the afternoon when a non-con-

ney-General Robert Bonne

The motion to cut Mr. Bon-

to want of confidence—was p-

Robert Strachan over the at-

of the Sommers case. The moti-

The case concerns charges

made against former lands an-

Sommers. The case is before t-

## HYDRO MATTERS



By  
GORDON  
McCALLUM  
Province  
Victoria  
Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett, who calls the Americans "smart traders," is a pretty fair salesman, himself.

And despite his declaration in the legislature this week that Ottawa must negotiate downstream benefits with the Americans on Columbia River hydro development, he probably will be in there somewhere.

The fact that he set out a new and higher figure on what would satisfy B.C.—50 per cent of the extra power which Americans can generate as a result of water storage in Canada—seems to indicate that he will set the pattern for the negotiations, if not participate in them.

## Pressure off

And it became obvious that he is using the proposed Wenner-Gren hydro development of the Peace River as a top hand in the international poker game of negotiating on the Columbia.

B.C. needs power; so does northwest Washington.

If Wenner-Gren interests show that they can harness the Peace and transmit power from there to the lower mainland at competitive rates, then the pressure is off British Columbia as far as pushing for development of the Columbia. At the same time, U.S. needs are increasing. So it becomes obvious that B.C.—and Canada—can sit back and enjoy the lofty position of a seller's market.

The engineering studies of the Columbia won't be finished until next year. Conceivably, the negotiations for downstream benefits don't have to be undertaken until that time.

## Big expansion

If both Columbia and Peace River hydro developments come, B.C. 10 years from now would be one of the richest hydro provinces in Canada. It would establish an economic level which would encourage a great industrial expansion, because industries go where they can get the power.

Premier Bennett about a year ago set the B.C. principle that it must get at least 20 per cent of the downstream benefits from American power generation on the Columbia.

Now he says 50 per cent or more.

It appeared that he felt that he might have "sold" the 20 per cent idea, so why not shoot for more?



TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958

## Three Socreds walk out

# Bonner backed in house vote

## Move on handling of bribe case lost

VICTORIA (CP)—Three government backbenchers walked out of the Legislature Monday afternoon when a non-confidence vote in Attorney-General Robert Bonner came up for decision.

The motion to cut Mr. Bonner's salary—tantamount to want of confidence—was put by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan over the attorney-general's handling of the Sommers case. The motion was defeated 29-14.

The case concerns charges of bribery and conspiracy made against former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers. The case is before the courts.

The vote on the motion came after 2½ hours of heated argument.

The three government members who disappeared just before the division bells rang were Cyril Shelford (S.C.-Omineca), Irvine Corbett (S.C.-Yale) and Fred Sharp (S.C.-Vancouver East).

THEY SAID afterwards that they left the legislature so they wouldn't have to vote on the motion.

Mr. Shelford said he didn't "agree with the attorney-general's handling of the case but I don't think he can defend himself fully while the case still is before the courts."

He said a full defence by Mr. Bonner might exert a definite influence on the courts. Mr. Sharp and Mr. Corbett agreed.

OTHER MEMBERS absent from the House at the time of the vote were Harold Roche (S.C.—North Peace River), Agriculture Minister Newton Steacy, Works Minister W. N. Chant and Mr. Sommers.

Opposition critics complained about the two-year delay by the attorney-general in ordering charges to be laid.

Premier Bennett, making one of his first statements in the House on the case, said:

"WE IN THE government have done our duty as we've seen our duty."

Mr. Strachan disagreed and said the motion was made "in the expectation that justice will be done and that incompetence will be removed."

Leo Nimsick (CCF—Cranbrook) criticized "the way the premier has tried to use the tar brush or the whitewash brush to cover up mistakes."

He said not only the attorney-general "but every member of the government" had failed in their duty.

MR. BONNER, after a speech by George Gregory (L—Victoria), charged "the third member for Victoria has . . . brought to this House a degree of unpleasantness unmatched by any of the other members."

He said he had always contended that "either we had a matter for the police or we didn't have a case at all—it is as simple as that."

HE CHARGED material which should have been appended to the original statement of declaration by lawyer Sturdy and accountant Charles Eversfield was in Mr. Gregory's office "all the time."

Mr. Gregory denied that, but said the material was not appended because "it was feared the attorney-general might not do what he should have done."

HE SAID HE knew of the documents only after he was re-

(Continued on Next Page)  
(See BONNER BACKED)

From Page One

## BONNER BACKED

tained by Mr. Sturdy to act for him in a slander suit initiated by Mr. Sommers.

The case was dismissed after Mr. Sommers failed to appear.

Mr. Strachan's original move was that Mr. Bonner's salary be cut by \$1.

He departed from his usual practice of speaking from notes and read carefully from a prepared speech.

HE SAID THE "seeming unawareness by the attorney-general of his position" is perhaps the most disturbing aspect of the whole matter.

"His blithe refusal to consider seriously the requests two years ago for a judicial enquiry, his blanket denial that the RCMP report (the Butler report) contained sufficient material to provoke criminal charges, his tardy appointment of a short-lived royal commission, and finally, the damning criminal charges which he ordered after almost two years of deliberate evasion and failure to act on what he himself referred to as 'questions of public importance,' all condemn him as unfit to hold his present office."

MR. BONNER said the arguments and position taken by Mr. Strachan and the Opposition were only worth about \$1.

Critics of the government handling of the case have been "indulging in psychological jargon," he said.

He said the statement of declaration first presented to him by Sturdy and Eversfield were "in a most unusual and incomplete form."

IT WAS FIRST shown to Ron Howard—a prominent Liberal—and Gordon Gibson, Mr. Bonner said. Mr. Gibson, former Liberal MLA for Lillooet, was the first to make the charges that "money talks" and started the whole series of events.

Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie) said the important aspect of the whole case as it now stands with regard to Mr. Bonner is: "Did he do his duty?"

HE SAID THE attorney-general is in "an untenable position because of his lack of action." "It matters nothing what the final results are at the proceedings now under way," he said.

Tuesday, March 4, 1958

## Take federal offer of aid, Socreds told

VICTORIA (CP)—The provincial government should press immediately for federal aid in guarding the CPR's Kettle Valley line, Randolph Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) told the Legislature.

Mr. Harding said federal Transport Minister George Hees recently offered the province financial help in protecting the line against bombings.

Mr. Harding said in the Monday debate that there was "a terrific amount of concern over the curtailment of service."

"We should ask the government in Ottawa to give us a hand," he said, if protection against bombings couldn't be handled by B.C.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner said that if the offer proved genuine he would get in touch with Hees.

Tom Uphill (Ind., Fernie) said he was sure that the real reason for the curtailment was not the bombings but economy.

## Dental technicians to get special

Province Victoria  
VICTORIA—A special committee will consider the new legislation for dental technicians before it is given for final reading.

The committee was named by Health Minister Eric

The members: Mr. Marshall, William Murray, Bert Price, Smith, Randolph Harding, and Gregory.

## Come, land the flowing

Province Victoria  
VICTORIA — Attorney-General Robert Bonner advised beer parlor operators to "land the flowing" and provide mugs, for their customers.

He made the mark while liquor control board order to use double-size glasses to make the 10-cent glass available.

Mr. Bonner said the beer situation on vodka this week was chased by the case, on speculation, but it is not available by the

## The fine line between bunk and tripe

We find it hard to follow the reasoning of Deputy Speaker Alex Matthew in ordering opposition leader Strachan to withdraw the word "bunk" from his description of the speeches of government members, and his acceptance of the word "tripe" in its place.

No doubt Mr. Matthew has been trying to keep the House's language on a parliamentary plane but his ruling in this case seems to be quite the reverse.

"Bunk" comes from bunkum, and bunkum from Buncombe, a county of North Carolina. The term originated when one Felix Walker, a naive old mountaineer

who represented Buncombe in the sixteenth Congress of the United States, held up important legislation with his long-winded talk. He said he was "bound to make a speech for Buncombe."

"Tripe," on the other hand, has no such parliamentary background. It is, according to the dictionary, part of the belly of a ruminant. We hope Mr. Matthew appreciates that "ruminant" is quite a proper word for the House to hear.

We can't help wondering whether it isn't more polite to allege that the honorable gentlemen are speaking for Buncombe rather than from the level of a cow's belly.



## Dental technician bill to get special review

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A special committee of the House will consider the new legislation concerning dental technicians before it is given to the Legislature for final reading.

The committee was named Tuesday, on resolution by Health Minister Eric Martin.

The members: Mr. Martin, Mrs. Buda Brown, William Murray, Bert Price, Cyril Shelford, Don Smith, Randolph Harding, Cedric Cox, and George Gregory.

## Come, landlord, fill the flowing bowl!

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Attorney-General Bonner has advised beer parlor operators to "use a little imagination" and provide mugs, pitchers or steins for their customers.

He made the mark while he was discussing the liquor control board order permitting beer parlors to use double-size glasses provided they continue to make the 10-cent glass available.

Mr. Bonner said the board also would review the situation on vodka this spring. It can be purchased by the case, on special order through LCB, but it is not available by the bottle.

## Premier vows: no election call on Bonner issue

VICTORIA (CP) — Premier Bennett says he doesn't plan to call an election over Attorney-General Robert Bonner's handling of the Sommers case.

The CCF opposition has challenged the premier to call an election.

"I remember in the 1956 session they challenged me to call an election and when I did they called it a snap election.

"They are just talking politics," he said.

## Oakalla closure favored

### MLA suggests it as hospital

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The legislature has received another suggestion that Oakalla Prison Farm in Burnaby be closed and prisoners housed elsewhere.

The suggestion came from Arthur Turner, CCF, Vancouver East, who said it is time the government considered moving the jail to some other location. He suggested the present buildings and grounds could be converted into a chronic care hospital.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Bonner, during debate on his salary, denied that Oakalla staff is being cut past a safety margin.

He said the provision in the estimates for a reduction of 53 guards would be balanced by a reduction in the number of prisoners as more are moved to the Haney correctional institute.

MR. BONNER SAID there are 3.3 prisoners to each guard, a ratio which he believes to be the best in all Canada. He denied that the perimeter guard at the prison had been reduced to a point of danger.

Gordon Dowding, CCF, Burnaby, told the House that people in his area are "very much frightened" because of numerous escapes from the institution.

## Municipalities may get hand on whistle cords

VICTORIA — The government is preparing to give municipalities some control over trains whistling.

Just how much control will be known when Railway Act amendments are presented to the Legislature by Railway Minister Lyle Wicks.

(West Vancouver recently protested whistle blowing of the PGE through the municipality.)

## TOUGHER PRISONS URGED

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A Social Credit backbencher told the Legislature Tuesday "These prisoners aren't worth it," and argued that the provincial government could cut its jail expenses "by at least a million dollars."

Bert Price (Vancouver-Burnard) described money spent on prisoners as one of "the greatest wastes" in our province.

He claimed that California lettuce and tomatoes are being imported for them "when our old age pensioners have to do without."

He called for a return to what hard labor sentences mean: hard work.

"It is a shame so much money is put into this (jail program)," the member said.

His criticism twisted the House into an unusual position: The CCF enthusiastically supported Attorney-General Bonner's rehabilitation program in the prison system.

MR. PRICE WAS the only member who spoke out against the jail costs.

He had been dealing with money invested in the new Haney correctional institute, and the costs of jail operation generally.

"These jails are a disgrace," he said.

"WE SHOULD MAKE the prisoners work."

He said that he has every faith in Oakalla warden Hugh Christie, "but Burnaby knows that we can have a riot at Oakalla at any time."

## \$4,750,000 for schools

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Education Minister Les Peterson agreed in the Legislature on Tuesday the government will have \$4,750,000 more in grants for school boards in the next fiscal year—but he didn't reveal the pattern of payments.

BEST GUESS was that there would be a revision in the teacher salary levels recognized by the government. But Mr. Peterson gave no clue. "There will be opportunity later to discuss educational finances," he said.

The House adjourned after Gordon Dowding, (CCF Burnaby) and Mr. Peterson had debated at the academic level in what education should aim for.

Mr. Dowding said the department had to look 20 years ahead to see what world conditions will be and what students will require then; Mr. Peterson said he would make it 50 years, not 20.

# POLICE PRESS DRUG DRIVE—'NOT ENOUGH'

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA—A vigorous campaign to suppress B.C.'s illicit drug traffic is now being pressed by the RCMP. Attorney-General Bonner told the Legislature Wednesday.

Mr. Bonner told the House the campaign was "one of the largest," but later pointed out it was a constant, rather than a new campaign.

But police methods "within themselves," are not enough to control Canada's drug problem and the federal government should consider a different approach, he said.

MR. BONNER was speaking on a motion, by Liberal George Gregory, Victoria, which called for vigorous dominion-provincial action to stamp out the drug problem.

On a technicality, the motion was ruled out of order, and the discussion died.

MR. GREGORY had declared,

in the preamble to his resolution that "there has been ample evidence that for many years the drug traffic has centred in B.C."

That is not a proven fact, replied Mr. Bonner: "There is so much evidence that it is centred in the province of Ontario."

Mr. Gregory told the house that no one in B.C. "should rest

content" with the extent of drug addiction in B.C.

"THE RCMP have come to the conclusion they are getting nowhere," he said.

He said that even the RCMP solution seems to be that addicts should be given every facility for cures — "even 100 times if necessary" — but after that addicts should be kept in jail for life where they won't harm themselves or anyone else."

## Seek PUC control of phones

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA — The Opposition sought Wednesday to have steps made to bring B.C. Telephone Co. under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission, but the government adjourned the debate.

The resolution was presented by Robert Strachan, CCF, leader of the Opposition.

HE SAID THAT since 1916, the telephone firm has been registered federally, "and the people of our province have no say over the operation of this utility within our province."

Mr. Strachan was the only speaker on the resolution. Attorney-General Bonner, next one to his feet, merely moved adjournment of the debate.

"I am not condemning the operators or workers of the telephone company," Mr. Strachan said.

BUT, HE SAID, in the series of controlling companies, "it means that before any extension of service can be given in B.C., the question must go to one of the companies across the (U.S.) line for decision."

On previous occasions, said Mr. Strachan, he had sought to have the B.C. government get control of the operation of the telephone company. He doesn't ask it this time, he said; he merely wants Public Utilities Commission control, the same as B.C. Electric.

## 'CHECK GAS' Ottawa asked to probe price

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The B.C. Legislature asked Wednesday that Ottawa make sure it follows through on an order in council directing that gas cannot be exported at a figure less than charged in Canada.

The resolution was in the form of an amendment, proposed by Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan to an original resolution from the CCF.

HE DEFENDED the Westcoast Transmission Company contract to deliver gas to the American border at 22 cents per thousand cubic feet because, he said, the contract is on an entirely different basis than that which covers the supply to B.C. Electric.

The Americans, he said, must pay the price whether they take the gas or not; the Canadian charge is only for what is taken.

THE OPPOSITION failed to obtain a Legislative inquiry into B.C.'s mental health services.

A motion by Gordon Dowling (CCF, Burnaby) asking for a house committee to probe claims of staff and service reductions died when provincial secretary Wesley Black adjourned the debate. It is unlikely the resolution will be reached again, although the session end is still at least 2½ weeks away.

A GOVERNMENT back-bencher claims Hansard in the B.C. legislature would cause sessions of the house to last twice as long.

Cyril Shelford (SC, Omineca) said a verbatim report on the proceedings of the legislature would force government members to speak on every bill or resolution presented to the house.

As it now stands they have their say in the secrecy of caucus or in committee meetings. Mr. Shelford said there was no need to repeat their views during house sittings.

The Legislature asked on Wednesday that the federal government work toward more humane slaughter of animals.

The house agreed, with a minor amendment, to a resolution introduced by Mrs. Lois Haggen (CCF, Grand Forks- Greenwood).

## Park board okay likely for cloverleaf

Vancouver park board is not expected to stand in the way of Highway Minister Gagliardi's promised Marpole cloverleaf, a board spokesman says.

However park commissioners are likely to want "equal area elsewhere" for loss of Eburne Park, which would be needed for the project, the spokesman said.

Mr. Gagliardi told the legislature a cloverleaf to join Marpole with the new Oak Street bridge would be definitely built, but he could not say when. He said negotiations must first be completed with the Vancouver park board because of Eburne Park.

The park board has not been officially approached on the matter to date. They were sent a copy of a letter written by Marpole Chamber of Commerce to the government asking for a cloverleaf.

## NOW IT'S A GOOD BUDGET??

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett told the legislature Wednesday that Mayor Fred Hume of Vancouver thinks the provincial budget is "wonderful."

(Mayor Hume was quoted by the press at the time of the budget's presentation as being disappointed in its treatment of municipalities.)

The premier quoted the mayor as saying:

"It was a wonderful budget and I support the Social Credit government more than ever."

His Worship was not available Wednesday night for any comment on the premier's statement.

## MLAs ask city teens to tell of delinquency

VICTORIA—Three King Edward High School students have been asked to appear before the welfare committee of the Legislature to tell what is wrong with their generation.

John Tisdalle, committee chairman, announced that John Thompson, Gordon Carey and Gary Harkness, had been asked before the committee, which is probing juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Tisdalle said the three were invited to appear March 14 "as a result of correspondence."

## DELINQUENCY INQUIRY IS TOLD

VICTORIA—Creation of full time juvenile court judges and a senior B.C. juvenile court judge was recommended to the Legislative committee on juvenile delinquency Thursday.

Professor W. G. Dixon, head of the UBC school of social work, said the juvenile court system "has not kept up with developments in public health and welfare services."

HE SUGGESTED the system should be studied with a view to reorganization, as did E. R. Lickinson, deputy minister of welfare.

Prof. Dixon said juvenile judgeships should be made full-time positions and suggested some form of regional administration of the courts.

CREATION OF a provincial senior juvenile court judgeship to supervise establishment of county juvenile courts was suggested by Mr. Rickinson.

Prof. Dixon said: "Social work also suffers from the dilemma of the happy Hollywood marriage; failure is more newsworthy than success."

"THE GREAT problem of the social worker is that he seldom gets the chance to show what he can do; he is too busy looking after a succession of crises."

Prof. Dixon said there are three main reasons why Canada

## FIGURES INCREASE BY THIRD

VICTORIA—Juvenile delinquency has increased 33 per cent in Vancouver between 1951 and 1956, the social welfare committee was told.

Prof. Dixon said in 1951 there were 309 cases of delinquency in Vancouver; in 1956, there were 524.

The increase for B.C. in the same years was 22.3 per cent; the increase for all Canada, 5.7 per cent.

He warned that statistics on juvenile delinquency are "notoriously difficult to assemble" because of differences in methods of reporting. But, he said, the figures he quoted can be accepted with value.



**DELINQUENCY  
INQUIRY  
IS TOLD**

# More juvenile court judges are needed

VICTORIA—Creation of full time juvenile court judges and a senior B.C. juvenile court judge was recommended to the Legislative committee on juvenile delinquency Thursday.

Professor W. G. Dixon, head of the UBC school of social work, said the juvenile court system "has not kept up with developments in public health and welfare services."

HE SUGGESTED the system should be studied with a view to reorganization, as did E. R. Lickinson, deputy minister of welfare.

Prof. Dixon said juvenile judgeships should be made full-time positions and suggested some form of regional administration of the courts.

CREATION OF a provincial senior juvenile court judgeship to supervise establishment of county juvenile courts was suggested by Mr. Rickinson.

Prof. Dixon said: "Social work also suffers from the dilemma of the happy Hollywood marriage; failure is more newsworthy than success."

"THE GREAT problem of the social worker is that he seldom gets the chance to show what he can do; he is too busy looking after a succession of crises."

Prof. Dixon said there are three main reasons why Canada

is not getting enough of the right kind of psychiatrists, criminologists, nurses, counsellors, psychologists and social workers.

THE FIRST is status, the second is cost of education, and the third is the expected earnings.

It is too much to expect people to go into social work just because of a sense of dedication; they need money, too.

Among Prof. Dixon's recommendations:

- A royal commission to review the problems of children and youth;

- General recognition that basic community welfare services dealing with the family as a whole are the first line of defence in the battle against juvenile delinquency;

- That probation staffs be further extended;

- A study of the feasibility of developing regional administration of preventive psychiatric services;

- A study of the administration and financing of the juvenile court system "because of its lag behind other social developments in British Columbia."

- Formation of a commission on youth services;

- No change in the present juvenile age but the problem of the disturbed male offender be met by additional institutional facilities.

## Education bill held over

# PIPELINE BOGEY WORKS

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The opposition tried hard but couldn't learn on Thursday how another \$4,000,000 for school boards is going to be distributed by the government.

But the opposition did win a point: It persuaded the government to hold over the \$43,658,000 education-aid grant until Education Minister Peterson brings in the details in a bill to be presented perhaps today.

THE GRANT total is up from \$38,900,000 last year.

Mr. Peterson just couldn't tell the House how the extra money was going to be distributed. The reason: It will be a "message" bill from the lieutenant-governor, and until it reaches the House, he couldn't reveal its contents.

The opposition held up the vote for an hour, and the government's stubbornness — in insisting that it go through before the covering legislation comes — collapsed when the opposition likened the situation to the pipeline debate at a former Ottawa session.

THAT DID the trick. Premier Bennett turned and whispered to the education minister, who agreed to hold over the vote on the \$43,658,000 item.

It appeared that the government is considering increasing the "recognized" salaries of school teachers — thereby increasing the grants to cover those salaries.

## Victoria backs UBC dentistry

VICTORIA — UBC was given government assurance of "100 per cent co-operation" on Thursday should it start a dental faculty.

The assurance came from Education Minister Peterson who was asked by the opposition if the government would increase the university's grant should the faculty be started.

BUT, SAID the minister, it was obvious that the university would first have to create premises to handle the faculty.

In Vancouver, Dr. Norman A. M. MacKenzie, university president, said he was "delighted to know of the government's interest" and promised the university would go ahead with the dental faculty as soon as funds are available.

"THERE ARE a great many demands for new buildings and we must see a proper foundation for a university comes first."

Later, Premier Bennett told the opposition: "We're not arguing with you; we're all for it."

## CCF'ers SPLIT ON HOXSEY REPORT

By GORDON McCALLUM  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — CCF members split in the Legislature Thursday night over UBC investigating team's report on the Hoxsey (Texas) cancer clinic.

But it wasn't a party split; they were voicing their personal views.

Randolph Harding, (Kaslo-Slocan), doubted the team had done a complete job of investigation. (The report was critical of the clinic).

But Tony Gargrave (Mackenzie) told the House he is convinced Hoxsey "has nothing but a smooth line."

"It is a fraud," he said. "It is a disgusting shame that someone should claim to have a cancer cure."

CCF Leader Robert Strachan was on Mr. Gargrave's side. He agreed that the medical profession would not try to stop a reputed cancer cure when even members of their own families were dying of the disease.

Mr. Martin told the House: "It is not for me to comment" because "I am not qualified to do so."

## Naturopath act changes set today

VICTORIA — Amendments to the Naturopathic Physicians Act will be presented in the legislature today, Health Minister Eric Martin said Thursday.

HIS OFFICIAL notice to the House gave no clue on what the changes would be.

The move is believed to have stemmed from the inquest into the starvation death of Mrs. Margaret M. Howard, 30-year-old North Vancouver mother who was being treated by a naturopath.

THE INQUEST jury recommended an investigation be carried out to permit a patient to be treated in a hospital by a doctor of his own choice.

The naturopath said at the inquest that he was not allowed to admit patients to hospital, or treat them once they were there.

## FIGURES INCREASE BY THIRD

VICTORIA—Juvenile delinquency has increased 33 per cent in Vancouver between 1951 and 1956, the social welfare committee was told.

Prof. Dixon said in 1951 there were 309 cases of delinquency in Vancouver; in 1956, there were 524.

The increase for B.C. in the same years was 22.3 per cent; the increase for all Canada, 5.7 per cent.

He warned that statistics on juvenile delinquency are "notoriously difficult to assemble" because of differences in methods of reporting. But, he said, the figures he quoted can be accepted with value.

## TO MEET PROTESTS

# New lease terms in B.C. Mining Act

By GORDON McCALLUM  
Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The government will guarantee renewal of mining leases, under certain conditions, to give lease holders a certainty of tenure but will not go back to the old crown grant system.

Amendments to the mining legislation, in an effort to meet some of the protests from mining interests when the crown grant system was ended, were introduced in the legislature on Friday.

Under the year-old legislation, there were two types of leases: one for five years, as a "holding" lease; the second for 21 years as a production lease.

UNDER THE amendments there will be only one type of lease, and it will be for 21 years. There will be a guaranteed renewal for another 21 years if the lease has been in production for any period in that 21 years; and a renewal "may" be granted if certain development work has

been done, and fees paid, during the first 21 years.

The requirements: Work valued at \$4 an acre and a fee of 50 cents a year for each of the first 10 years; then work valued at \$6 an acre and fees of \$1 an acre for the next 11 years.

There can be up to 16 claims (each with a maximum of 1500 by 1500 feet) which equals 51 acres in each lease.

WHEN CLAIMS are staked, there must be \$100 worth of work a year per claim to hold it. There is no limit to the number of years such claims can be held.

In the amendments last year, it provided that a claim holder had to go to lease within five years; that proviso is ended.

Officials felt that large mining concerns would not be content to stay at claims, to hold a property, but would choose to go to leases, despite the fact that the leases would be more expensive.

"A lease," an official said, "gives a much firmer hold on property than a mere claim does."

THERE ALSO will be provision for the issuance of an unstated additional number of crown grants.

The crown grants were chopped off on Feb. 28, 1957, the day the legislation was introduced. The new amendments open the door again, but just a tiny bit: claim holders who at that time had a bona fide survey under way (a requirement before a crown grant would be made) can get their crown grant. But otherwise no new crown grants will be available.

The lease fees are far above what the fees were under the old crown grants. Under the grants, the charge was 25 cents an acre, with no requirement that work be done on a property.

Now there is the annual work requirement, plus the 50 cents per acre fee for the first 10 years, and \$1 an acre per year for the next 11 years.

OFFICIALS SAID that the amendments mean that the government is firmly standing on this principle: it will not revert to the crown grant system. But they said that it gives an assurance of tenure to the mining interests and it feels that bona fide operators will not be able to complain.

And while the fees and work requirements are higher to hold on to a lease, "we feel that no crown land should be put into private hands without a reasonable fee being paid to the crown."

## HOXSEY AGAIN

By GORDON McCALLUM  
Province Victoria Bureau



VICTORIA — A cancer clinic far away in Texas has caused an odd split among members on both sides of the House in the legislature.

The split among the CCF members—and it was a split in personal opinion, not on party lines—was the most obvious because it spilled out on the floor of the legislature on Thursday night.

But there is disagreement among members on the government side, too.

Two sessions back, Mrs. Lydia Arsens, then Social Credit member for Victoria, brought up the subject of the Hoxsey clinic. She didn't get very far because much of her material was a direct attack on physicians.

Then Randolph Harding, CCF, Kaslo-Slocan, took it up last year. Mr. Harding is a man who has won much respect from all groups. The house paid attention.

### Why argue

Health Minister Martin, sensing that he would be plagued with the subject year after year, named a UBC committee of six to take a look at the clinic. Their critical report was presented at this session.

But Mr. Harding wasn't persuaded that the committee had probed far enough. He asked if, perhaps, "this man Hoxsey has something" after all.

He spoke for an hour and 15 minutes. Then Tony Gargrave, CCF, Mackenzie, got up and roundly criticized Hoxsey; the man, he said, has "nothing but a smooth line."

It caused CCF leader Robert Strachan some embarrassment. And when it came his turn to speak, he obviously had to go with Mr. Harding or Mr. Gargrave. He chose Mr. Gargrave; he would have to accept the opinion of qualified medical men about the clinic.

## No space for court —Scott

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Juvenile court and family court facilities in Vancouver were described Friday as "an absolute disgrace."

Magistrate Gordon Scott, appearing before the legislature's welfare committee as a representative of the B.C. Youth Council, said the courts haven't enough space.

He said the building originally was designed to house eight officials; it is accommodating 35.

HE SAID Vancouver City is providing an annex, but even with this, the space will be inadequate.

Magistrate Scott said more probation efforts are needed, because more effort could be undertaken to keep families together. This would be the main job, he said, instead of collecting money from husbands who won't support their wives.

HE CALLED for a broader scheme to handle various types of juvenile offenders.

He told the committee that when he was a juvenile court judge, the Boys' Industrial School was the only place he could send such widely-varied offenders as a 12-year-old ward of the Children's Aid Society, a mentally retarded youth, a 17-year-old psychopath and a young sex pervert.

He said an institution is needed for youths who come from good homes but who regard probation as a joke. This is the smart aleck type which doesn't need a 12-month sentence at BISCO (now Brannan Lake School for Boys, near Nanaimo), but needs sheer discipline in an institution.

### Walked out

But the strange thing is: Why should the B.C. legislature argue about the Hoxsey clinic at all? There is no real suggestion, yet, that a similar clinic be set up in B.C.

As he did so often when Mrs. Arsens was speaking on the subject, Premier Bennett walked out of the House when Mr. Harding started to speak. It has never been made clear whether he is squeamish on such subjects, or if he is trying to indicate that debate on it is just a waste of time for the B.C. legislature.

Anyway, the debate on the subject for this session seems to be out of the way, and the House now can turn to the here-at-home matters in the department of public health and welfare.

## Get busy on

UBC authorities should look taking up the provincial government's assurance to the legislature would "co-operate 100 per cent" university started a dental college. The university's \$30,000,000 program toward which they already subscribed nearly \$7,000,000 balance will come from the government's \$1,500,000 for building.

But the university is unwavering ahead with the project until assurances from the government UBC annual operating grant increased to cover operation of faculty.

Now that both Education Minister Peterson and Premier Bennett are all for a dental faculty, step will be for the university to ask the government as to amounts it will add to the operation grant to cover cost of college.

That may not be as easy as it seems. At the moment the university government are arguing over the present operational grant, leaders maintain is \$1,000,000 amount required to maintain operation at a minimal level.

In such a situation the university



SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1958

## Bennett raps federal gov't in health insurance debate

Province Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA —** The March 31 federal election campaign spilled into the B.C. legislature Friday and Premier Bennett made his first direct criticism of the national Conservative government.

"We are a little alarmed," he told the House, "at the way the present government is holding hands with Ontario and Quebec;

it is a little too much for the best interests of British Columbia."

EARLIER, he had said: "I am terribly disappointed in the Diefenbaker government. I had hoped that it would have had vision."

"Actually it has dealt with British Columbia more severely than the Liberal government did."

The premier's remarks seemed to set the stage for what he will say in the federal campaign —

if he gets into it in any great degree.

HE IS SPEAKING at Chilliwack tonight and Nanaimo next week; and is expected to speak in the last week of the campaign.

The Premier spoke during a debate on health insurance services. The opposition had said Health Minister Martin, because the federal government was coming into the hospital insurance field should have brought in a general health insurance scheme, too; that BC could afford it now.

MR. MARTIN said such a scheme is bound to come.

"If doctors continue to increase their fees, heaven knows what it (such a scheme) will cost."

"They are forcing us into protection, to protect ourselves against high medical costs."

A BIG TROUBLE, said the minister, is that B.C. does not yet know what Ottawa will pay for when it enters the hospital insurance scheme.

He accused Ottawa of stalling, of dragging its feet, "and I am beginning to doubt whether the federal government wants to enter into any agreement."

HE MADE the remarks during consideration of a public health vote. And Mr. Martin said he suspected that Ottawa, as part of the hospital insurance agreement, would want to wipe out a \$676,500 public health services contribution.

The CCF was highly critical of the government for failing to bring in a general health insurance scheme. But Attorney-General Bonner saw in the complaint an association with the March 31 election date.

MR. MARTIN forecast that if Ontario goes into a joint scheme with Ottawa on a basis whereby the public pays premiums, "it will be in trouble."

## Get busy on our dental school

UBC authorities should lose no time in taking up the provincial government on its assurance to the legislature that it would "co-operate 100 per cent" if the university started a dental college.

The university's \$30,000,000 development program toward which the public has already subscribed nearly \$7,000,000 (the balance will come from the senior governments) includes \$1,500,000 for a dentistry building.

But the university is unwilling to go ahead with the project until it has firm assurances from the government that the UBC annual operating grant will be increased to cover operation of the dental faculty.

Now that both Education Minister Peterson and Premier Bennett say that they are all for a dental faculty, the next step will be for the university to pin down the government as to the specific amounts it will add to the annual UBC operation grant to cover cost of the dental college.

That may not be as easy as it sounds. At the moment the university and the government are arguing over the size of the present operational grant, which UBC leaders maintain is \$1,000,000 under the amount required to maintain the institution at a minimal level.

In such a situation the university is

hardly anxious to assume responsibility for a dental college when it feels it is already short of operating funds.

Unfortunately the argument over total operational costs befalls the dental school issue so badly that the dental faculty could be pigeonholed again. All this despite the fact that both the university and the government insist that they are anxious to make a start on the dental college.

While the legislature is still in session an effort should be made to clear up the situation. Good intentions won't create a dental faculty. It will take money. Annual cost will range from \$250,000 in the initial year to \$400,000 when the college is in full operation.

The shortage of dentists in this province is acute, both in the cities and in the country. Dr. Arthur Racey of Montreal told the Vancouver and District Dental Society this week that 98 per cent of Canadians suffer from dental diseases but only 35 per cent receive any form of treatment in any one year.

It is not quite that bad in B.C. but it is bad enough. The public interest demands that the government and the university get together and work out a satisfactory financial formula for building and operating a dental college that will keep B.C. supplied with the dentists so badly needed to serve our growing population.

## Youth detail will not appear

Province Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA —** The youth detail of the Vancouver City police force will not appear before the legislature committee probing juvenile delinquency.

Chief Constable Archer advised the committee by letter Friday that the detail is concentrated on the positive enforcement of law; the committee, he said, is interested in preventive measures and he felt the youth detail could be of little assistance.

## BENNETT TARDINESS PROTESTED

Vancouver Board of Trade has complained to Premier Bennett that his practice of bringing down important legislation in the closing hours of debate is stifling public consideration of important matters.

The board pointed out that the "problem . . . appears to be developing in this session," and stops individuals or organizations making a study and appealing for changes.

Important legislation, particularly that mentioned in the speech from the throne, should be brought down early in the session, the letter points out, so that the public will have ample time to study it.

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1958

## Vancouver stores assured equal break on Yule hours

Vancouver merchants will get an equal break on Christmas shopping, corporation counsel Russell Baker was assured in Victoria.

A legislature committee is now dealing with measures which would give municipalities power

to extend pre-Christmas night shopping to 14 days while the present Vancouver charter limits such night shopping to seven days.

City council does not want to extend pre-Christmas shopping but is in the position it would have to seek a charter amendment so Vancouver stores could compete with those in nearby municipalities on an equal basis.

"The committee didn't say what it was going to do but members indicated Vancouver would be put on an equal basis with other municipalities," Mr. Baker said.

### AMENDMENT SCORED

## Removal of service station closing regulations asked

The Greater Vancouver Tourist Association and a B.C. gasoline distributing firm Saturday asked the provincial government to remove restrictions controlling closing hours for service stations and garages.

Briefs were presented by J. V. Hughes, executive vice-president of the tourist association, and George C. Bradley, president and general manager of Home Oil Distributors Ltd., to a standing committee on municipal affairs.

THE COMMITTEE has already given first reading to an amendment to the Municipal Act which,

in effect, would require service stations to close at 6 p.m. during the eight winter months and at 9 p.m. in the summer.

The amendment also provides for stations to operate on a 24-hour basis and for municipalities to permit a few stations to remain open later on a rotating basis.

MR. HUGHES pointed out the B.C. tourist industry is worth about \$100,000,000 a year and said tourists spend about \$3,000,000 for the operation of their autos.

"We believe the amendments affecting the hours of operation of service stations in its proposed form is unwise and will prove to be a decided liability to our tourist industry and will hinder the economic prosperity of B.C.," he said.

Mr. Bradley said that in the interests of the public the government should avoid restricting closing hours for service stations.

"IF SUCH restrictions are

necessary, and we do not believe they are, then we believe that local autonomy, familiar with local conditions, should impose them," he said.

However, if the government is determined to regulate service station hours, the brief suggested a third choice which would permit operators to remain open 11 or 12 p.m. and until 9 or 10 p.m. in the winter.

### 'The R

The futility of trying to stamp out crime is now admitted by the province's chief Attorney-General.

Police met with a problem, he said, but the government should consider it.

Mr. Bonney said the government are campaigning against drug traffic by continuing one, rather than two, stamps.

George G. who demanded that the R.C.M.P. stamp out the crime that "the R.C.M.P. are doing a good job of stamping out."

This new police force, a tremendous public health problem long ago.



MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1958

#### CITY CHEST BRIEF

## Youth services inquiry proposed

VICTORIA—A royal commission on youth services was suggested by the Community Chest and Council of Greater Vancouver in a brief to the legislature's committee on social welfare and education.

The 23-page brief also asked the government to set up a permanent co-ordinating committee on youth services.

"We are convinced that services to youth must concentrate on preventive programs rather than punitive attitudes," said the brief.

"To this end, we have consistently opposed the out-dated demand that has been occasionally heard to have the legal age for juveniles lowered."

PREVENTIVE SERVICES are cheaper than treatment services, the brief said.

There is a lack of trained staff and funds for adequate preventive and rehabilitative work in the four youth service fields in B.C., the Chest felt.

In the field of family and children's services, corrections, mental health services and recreation, the brief criticized:

1. Unmanageable caseloads of social welfare branch district workers.
2. Inadequate numbers of qualified social workers and probation officers.
3. The fact that many juvenile court judges in B.C. have neither training nor aptitude for determining the future of juveniles coming before them.
4. The "incredibly long waiting period" for admission to Child Guidance Clinic.
5. The lack of a diagnostic clinic in connection with juvenile court; diagnostic hospital facilities for children; residential care for emotionally disturbed children.
6. The lack of means to help 311 venereal disease cases from 15 to 29 years out of conditions pre-disposing them to promiscuity.

Presenting the brief were five Chest delegates: Ald. Tom Alsbury, youth service committee chairman; Dr. Lawrence E. Ranta, social planning chairman; Mrs. Reg. Jessup, vice-chairman; Mrs. J. A. Folkins, family and child welfare division chairman, and Ernest D. Hill, social planning section director.

LOCAL GROUPS with limited information cannot develop comprehensive and effective solutions to the problem of youth services in the province, the brief said.

"We are convinced it is necessary for the provincial government and its official agencies to accept responsibility for assembling the facts related to youth problems, and for bringing together on a continuing basis all interested groups — both public and voluntary — to plan what must be done on the basis of those facts."

## 'The RCMP are getting nowhere'

The futility of our present methods of trying to stamp out narcotics addiction is now admitted in the legislature by the province's chief law enforcement officer, Attorney-General Bonner.

Police methods, "within themselves," are not enough to control Canada's drug problem, he said, and the federal government should consider a different approach.

Mr. Bonner pointed out that the RCMP are campaigning to suppress B.C.'s illicit drug traffic but that the effort is a continuing one, rather than something new.

George Gregory (Liberal, Victoria) who demanded federal-provincial action to stamp out the dope traffic, maintained that "the RCMP have come to the conclusion they are getting nowhere."

This newspaper, some enlightened policemen, a great many citizens and a tremendous number of social welfare and public health leaders came to this conclusion long ago.

There may still be argument about whether government clinics to supply dope to addicts at cost would put an end to the highly profitable and illicit drug traffic and, ultimately, to the whole drug problem.

But there can be no argument that the constant procession of addicts and dope pushers in and out of our jails is not solving anything. The traffic goes on unabated and every week we hear of new police efforts to stamp it out.

Surely we have reached a point of futility where federal authorities will give some encouragement to sensible experiments to solve this problem. Surely someone at the seat of power will see that this is basically a social and medical problem rather than one in criminology.

Let us keep talking about this in the provincial legislatures and on the hustings until Ottawa pays some attention.

## Holding bag? holds bridge! —Gagliardi

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA — Highway Minister Gagliardi made it clear Monday night that per capita grants to Vancouver are in lieu of grants for highway costs.

He agreed that the \$23,000-odd for arterial highways, granted to Vancouver "sounds like a mere pittance."

But, he said, "we give them a grant of \$2,300,000, free of restrictions."

He said Vancouver had left him "holding the bag in the new Oak Street Bridge."

"I was told that Vancouver would contribute a share of the bridge and Ottawa would. But I was left holding the bag. Holding the bag? I was left holding a bridge."

"What about Richmond," someone asked.

"Richmond wasn't left holding the bag; it was left holding the swag," said the minister.

## Road tally up \$1,500,000

VICTORIA (CP)—An increase of almost \$1,500,000 in estimated 1958-59 road maintenance expenditures was announced in the legislature Monday night by Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi.

The increase of \$1,412,000 affects all of the 41 road districts in B.C. from Alberni to Yale. Total estimated expenditure for the job now is \$6,612,000.

Mr. Gagliardi, whose estimates were up for scrutiny by the House at the time, made no comment as the revised schedule of allotments was distributed in the House.

CCF members said the revision brought the allotments almost back to the 1957-58 level.

## B.C. Women hit wives who work

VICTORIA (CP)—Working wives can cause serious family difficulties, the legislative committee on labor was told Monday.

The B.C. Council of Women, in a supplementary brief to the committee — investigating seasonal unemployment—said:

"It is commendable that a wife or a mother takes employment to help out, but that may lead to serious difficulties."

The council said a working wife "may so enjoy the freedom and security" of earning her own salary that she may not want to give up the work "when it is no longer necessary."

IN A SECOND brief to the committee, the International Railway Brotherhoods suggested a conference between federal and provincial governments, including municipal, business and labor representatives, in a move to get a "satisfactory" solution to the unemployment problem.

The brotherhood asked B.C. to take the lead in arranging a debt moratorium to protect the unemployed.

## Garage restriction attacked

The proposed amendment to provincial regulations governing hours of service stations and garages forces service to be provided at hours when it is neither needed nor economical, the Imperial Oil Company has told a government committee.

Ronald S. Ritchie, B.C. division manager of Imperial Oil, made the statement in a brief before the select standing committee on municipal matters, which is considering the garage hours amendments.

THE AMENDMENTS call for service stations to close at 6 p.m. in the eight winter months and at 9 p.m. in the summer. It also provides for a few stations to remain open for 24 hours on a rotating basis from rosters set up by the municipalities.

"Under the proposed rotation system the service station operator whose whole success depends upon building and maintaining a satisfactory clientele will find his customers forced to go to his competitors on many occasions," said Mr. Ritchie.

HE TOLD the committee also "the system of regulations proposed is complex, difficult to administer and likely to result in many inequities."

The brief argued that "existing provisions of the Municipal Act . . . appear to provide appropriately for any regulation by municipal authorities which is desirable and at the same time give the municipal authorities sufficient flexibility to gauge the real needs and the interests of all concerned, i.e., the service station operators and the public."

## MLA asks B.C. to finance new Seymour ski lift

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA—Bert Price (S.C., Vancouver-Burrard), told the Legislature Monday a ski lift should be built on Mount Seymour.

His suggestion: A crown company do the job with profits put back into the consolidated revenue fund.



TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1958

## FREE MEDICAL AID

# Doctors ask B.C. for 'better deal'

A B.C. Medical Association delegation and a committee of the legislature will meet in Victoria tonight with the fate of the social assistance medical service in the balance.

The association said Monday that unless the government assures doctors of at least 60 per cent of their assessed fees for treatment of patients on social assistance, the service will end March 31.

**DOCTORS WOULD CONTINUE** to treat these patients but would no longer be paid the \$22.50 the government provides per patient per year.

Dr. Peter Lehmann, association president, said: "This means we will lose over a \$1,000,000 a year, but we would prefer that rather than continue under the present system where we get no credit for our part in the service and where there is no goodwill between us and the government."

**THE \$22.50 ALLOWS** for payment by the government of only 50-51 per cent of the assessed fees (fees assessed for validity by an association committee).

The doctors say this generally leaves little profit and in some services, such as X-ray, there is a loss. They claim that in 1956-57 they made a \$1,181,276 contribution to the service because that is the difference between their assessed fees and the government money available to pay them.

**THEY SAY** there are some patients under the service who are able to pay, yet the doctors have no say as to whom the service will cover.

"We are objecting to the attitude of the government by which it takes full credit for maintaining the service," said Dr. Lehmann. "Actually the doctors are providing half the service."

Dr. Gordon Ferguson, association secretary said they put their requests for a revised contract to the government in December, 1956.

**HE SAID** they were finally told by Health Minister Martin that "there was nothing in the budget and therefore there could be no change."

"We think that was not a very happy working arrangement and we made certain the same trick would not be played on us again," said Dr. Ferguson. "We told him there has got to be a good arrangement, otherwise the contract is up March 31."

The service covered 66,724 last year and \$1,372,570 out of assessed fees totaling \$2,553,847 was paid.

## MOVE UNEXPLAINED

# 'Bingo bill' debate gets adjournment

VICTORIA (CP) — Debate on the government's "Bingo bill," formally referred to as an act to amend the Hospital Construction Aid Tax Act, was adjourned in the Legislature Monday.

The bill would make it clear that bingo, growing rapidly in popularity, is subject to amusement tax.

The debate adjournment was moved by Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby), without explanation.

**IT WAS BELIEVED** the opposition objected to part of the amendment giving the minister of finance, Premier Bennett, wide powers in determining what can be classed as a "contest" and thereby made subject to tax.

★ ★ ★

Health Minister Martin brought in new legislation to govern naturopathic physicians — but officials agreed it didn't do much more than legalize their participation in first aid and blood tests.

**THEY WILL NOT** be entitled to practice in hospitals, as suggested recently by a coroner's jury in North Vancouver which investigated the starvation death of a woman.

★ ★ ★

The CCF supported the government on a bill to increase the PGE borrowing from \$80,000,000 to \$110,000,000 — but it still got a political lecture from Social Credit Premier Bennett.

The bill will help pay for extensions from Prince George to Fort St. John and Dawson Creek.

**MR. BENNETT** complained every political party has been in favor of extending the PGE into the Peace River country, but only the Social Credit government had the courage to do it.

## Williston gets warning from M.L.A.

# AVOID SCANDAL, PROBE LICENCES

### ... and Strachan protests

VICTORIA (CP) — General and specific criticism of the government's forestry policy was made in the Legislature Tuesday by Opposition Leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Strachan said "many tragic mistakes have been made" with regards to forestry and predicted "what we do in the Legislature this year will determine to a large extent what situation exists in the province 50 or 100 years from now."

He said the forest service and the forest companies "have left undone work that should have been done," but said the service "has never been allowed to do the job it was set up to do — manage and perpetuate our forests."

Speaking to the debate on estimated expenditures in the lands and forests department for the coming fiscal year, Mr. Strachan said it doesn't appear the government "is aware of the urgency of the situation" existing in the forest industry today.

RECOMMENDATIONS made in recent forest legislation presented to the House are "scant and incomplete," he said.

The renaming of forest management licences to free farms is just "an attempt to deodorize forest management licences without removing the cause of the smell, which is the monopolistic control of forest resources."

LANDS AND FORESTS Minister Ray Williston said the "program as outlined" by Mr. Strachan was "basically a CCF policy statement."

He told the legislature the estimates for his department will not be increased this year.

Many of Mr. Strachan's submissions are "almost at direct opposition with the Sloan report."

VICTORIA (CP) — Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston was warned he will become involved in a scandal unless he orders a complete investigation to determine whether there was any impropriety in the granting of existing forest management licences.

George Gregory (L—Victoria) warned the minister that without such an investigation he "will become involved in the scandal already around the head of his predecessor."

He was referring to former lands and forests minister Robert E. Sommers, recently committed for trial on charges of bribery and conspiracy in the issuance of forest management licences.

MR. WILLISTON had said only a few minutes earlier he had found "nothing out of line" after checking existing licences.

"We in the Liberal group, and we believe the people in B.C., think there was something very seriously wrong in the administration of the lands and forests department under your predecessor," said Mr. Gregory.

HE SAID the fact Mr. Sommers had been committed to stand trial "shows there is a prima facie case of guilt."

"How can you say there is no evidence that there hasn't been any wrong-doing?"

### Doctors extend deadline

VICTORIA (CP) — A 30-day extension in the operation of the social assistance medical service program was agreed to Tuesday night at a meeting between doctors and a special legislative committee.

The committee was formed after the B.C. division of the Canadian Medical Association gave notice they would not renew their agreement with the government at the end of this month.

The doctors provide complete medical treatment for the 66,000-plus persons on social assistance in the province.

The doctors emphasized that while they would carry on the service for a month after the March 31 expiry date, they would not renew the agreement. All records will be kept as usual and the same identity cards honored.

The extension was given after the committee suggested 30 days would be enough time to reach a decision on whether to increase the government's \$1,500,000 contribution to the plan.

Even if the agreement isn't renewed, the doctors will continue offering charity service.

### Groups to get more money 'if necessary'

Attorney-General Bonner says groups studying narcotic addiction and alcoholism, will get more money if they need it, even though their budgets have been cut.

He was referring to Alcoholism Foundation of B.C. and the Narcotic Addiction Foundation of B.C.

The alcoholism study budget was cut from \$105,000 to \$50,000. The narcotic foundation's was slashed from \$97,000 to \$25,000.

The alcoholism foundation said its minimum operating expenditure was \$63,000.

Mr. Bonner said he would review their expenditures towards year's end. If they need additional assistance, they will get it, he said.

### Socreds lay the eggs, CCF claims credit

VICTORIA (CP) — Highway Minister P. A. Gagliardi has coined another name for the CCF party.

Last year he said the initials stood for "confused, confused and frustrated."

This year he's decided they stand for the Canadian cackling fraternity.

This he said, because the CCF is always trying to take the credit for eggs laid by the Social Credit party.

### Bill gives naturopaths self rule

VICTORIA — New legislation eliminating a board of supervisors will give B.C. naturopaths control over who may practice.

Health Minister Martin introduced a bill that, in effect, puts naturopaths on the same professional footing as medical doctors.

IT WILL NOT, however, entitle them to practice in hospitals as a coroner's jury suggested recently in North Vancouver after investigating the starvation death of a woman.

In the past naturopaths were examined by a board consisting of the provincial secretary, the dean of the UBC arts faculty and the UBC registrar.

EXAMS WILL NOW be set by members of the profession.

Government officials said the old board was wiped out because it seldom operated.

### Back

A century was beginning what was the mail order "doctor" as an architect.

Very early to recognize, the civilized ability to set of the citizen the competent fications, and field of medi

And, again all over the already recognized universities.

Now the legislature has followed

It has started to create a doubt of the sick: of recognized studies; on the thing—based examination learned by re

That is t

### Punctu

Premier B. ter Gagliardi away with the because Vancouver grants in lieu case for asking highways.

They have Vancouver per capita police and s arranged.

All this is ceiving bound not be so un is not getting

The facts

Each ye from the gov tion and ma nearly cover back to the and car and that never l

The city cessity of sp to serve the government city \$6,000,0 aside for ex approaches

This sum the many r



## Back to frontier standards?

A century ago, when British Columbia was beginning, any man could come to what was then the backwoods, flash a mail order "degree" and set up in business as an architect, an engineer, a lawyer—or a doctor.

Very early the new Legislature came to recognize, as legislatures had all over the civilized world, that it had a responsibility to set standards for the protection of the citizen in fields in which he lacked the competence to judge professional qualifications, and most particularly in the field of medicine.

And, again as legislatures had done all over the civilized world, it chose the already recognized standards of the universities.

Now the descendant of that early legislature has set out to reverse the process followed all over the civilized world.

It has started on a course which can create a double standard in the treatment of the sick: on the one hand the universally recognized standard set by the universities; on the other, one which can be anything—based, in the extreme case, on an examination in meaningless mumbo-jumbo learned by rote.

That is the real meaning of the bill

presented by the minister of health and welfare, Mr. Eric Martin, to eliminate the present "board of supervision" and put the decision on the granting of certificates of naturopathy in the hands of the naturopaths themselves.

While the "board of supervision" has been inoperative there is no reason why it could not have been reorganized to perform the duties for which it was originally appointed.

The bill would give the naturopaths, trained at purely commercial schools, virtually the same footing as the doctors of medicine, rigorously trained at the universities.

There is no school of naturopathy in Canada. Ironically, all the naturopaths here were trained in the United States—but, of those same states, a considerable number which used to recognize naturopathy no longer permit its practice; there are today only a handful of the 48 in which it survives.

Already at this session of the legislature a bill has been introduced to permit dental technicians to deal directly with the public instead of through qualified dentists.

In our centennial year, are we to return to the standards of frontier days?

## Puncturing a superficial argument

Premier Bennett and Highways Minister Gaglardi should not be allowed to get away with their superficial argument that because Vancouver receives per capita grants in lieu of highway grants it has no case for asking for more money for arterial highways.

They have told the Legislature that if Vancouver wants its present \$2,500,000 per capita grant earmarked for roads, police and so on a new system can be arranged.

All this implies that Vancouver is receiving bountiful treatment and should not be so ungrateful as to suggest that it is not getting a square deal.

The facts are these:

Each year Vancouver gets \$23,626 from the government for highway construction and maintenance, a sum that doesn't nearly cover the amount the city pays back to the government in gasoline taxes and car and truck licences for city vehicles that never leave the city limits.

The city is confronted with the necessity of spending millions on new roads to serve the toll bridges and tunnels the government is building. It will cost the city \$6,000,000 just to buy land to be set aside for express highways and cloverleaf approaches and intersections.

This sum is for land alone, exclusive of the many millions that will have to be

spent on the actual construction of these highways and approaches.

The argument that the government is contributing to these costs in its per capita grant falls flat on its face. Municipalities like Burnaby and Richmond receive per capita grants. But they also are relieved from the cost of building arterial roads.

Consider the present widening of the Lougheed highway through Burnaby, a project that will cost a big sum. The government foots the bill. And the government will pay for the expressway across Burnaby which will be part of the Trans-Canada highway.

And what if little Richmond had to pay for the roadways to connect with the new Oak Street bridge and the Deas Island tunnel? The government admits responsibility here also.

But when these roads hit Vancouver the government expects the city to pay through the nose.

Vancouver's per capita grants become a sort of catch-all for all governmental obligations and responsibilities within the boundaries of this city.

When Premier Bennett suggests he would consider a new formula for grants to Vancouver the City Council should take him up. It should demand a formula which would give Vancouver the same treatment as the neighboring municipalities.

Wednesday, March 12, 1958

## Mining men feel new law is better

Despite changes, association asks return to crown grants

The Mining Association of British Columbia has decided that amendments to the Mineral Act, presented to the legislature last Friday, offer "substantial improvement" over the leasehold terms contained in 1957 legislation.

At the same time, the association, in a statement issued by L. T. Postle, president, continues its plea for a return to the crown grant system. It also asks for a hearing for "some technical revisions" in the present law.

ALSO STUDYING the new legislation is the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines. Its executive has held one meeting and a special committee will hold another meeting shortly.

The new Mineral Act amendment, Bill 70, revokes a provision for a 5-year "holding" lease which required that a staker takes out a 21-year production lease in five years.

It now provides 21 year leases with a guarantee of renewal if production has taken place within that period or that renewal "may" be granted if certain development has taken place.

MR. POSTLE'S statement, issued following an executive meeting, follows:

"The Mining Association of British Columbia considers that the Mineral Act Amendment Act 1958 offers a substantial improvement over the previously proposed mining legislation and the association is appreciative of this evidence of a greater recognition on the part of the Provincial Government of the current problems of the mining industry.

"The Mining Association is of the opinion that re-establishment of crown granting of mineral claims would be in the best interest of this industry and of the people of this province."

"Having had an opportunity to consider the provisions of Bill 70, the association believes that some clarification and some technical revisions of this legislation would be in the best interests of all concerned.

"Accordingly the association proposes to request, of the government of British Columbia, an early opportunity to present for consideration its further opinions on these matters."

## UNION SAYS OF BRITANNIA:

### CLOSURE DELIBERATE

The Mine Mill Union claims the Britannia closure is part of an operators' policy to curtail production and thus bring copper back to a high price.

THAT WAS the key point in a union brief to the legislature's standing committee on labor. The brief was submitted Tuesday in Victoria.

The union men quoted the

Northern Miner—the "bible" of the industry—in an attempt to show that curtailment is the order of the day.

"This," says the brief, "perhaps explains why neither Britannia nor the Mining association is prepared to meet the union's demand for a guaranteed price of 30 cents (per pound) with government stockpiling to maintain it.

"ON THAT basis, the closure

begins to be understandable," it was stated.

The company was also accused of taking no responsibility for the continuation of utilities, declining to look after the repair of homes, and "summarily confiscating" homes that had been built and paid for by the employees.

The union suggested that there was no solution short of direct government operation of the mine.

### It was "an aside"

Your editorial, "The fine line between bunk and tripe" is obviously based on information which is not quite accurate. The word "tripe" is just as objectionable as the word "bunk" if not more so, and had the leader of the opposition used it in his speech I would have asked for its withdrawal. He used the term in an "aside" and I had no chance of correcting this.

Victoria. A. S. MATTHEW, MLA  
Deputy Speaker

## Bill increases

# New school lazy

## Teacher bl in new neg

### ON TAXES:

VICTORIA — The government will increase its educational grants to municipalities to about \$4,750,000 on the terms of the new Public Schools Act introduced in the Legislature Tuesday.

While government grants will up, municipalities must, in turn, make their own contributions on a higher rate.

The government says this will bring relief on a varied scale for municipal taxpayers.

This is how the new system compares with the present method of sharing education costs:

The present formula uses a 1955 ruling. It provides that the government will approve school costs on the basis of 1955 costs. Rural districts pay the amount of money raised by seven mills; municipalities pay on 10 mills.

THE GOVERNMENT pays the rest, until the level of 1955 costs is reached. After that point, the government pays 75 per cent of additional costs; the municipalities pay 25 per cent.

In a period of steadily rising costs, this 75-25 sawoff has forced most school mills rates above the basic seven and 10 mill rate.

THE NEW ACT eliminates the 1955 cost level.

School budgets will be approved on the basis of current costs. Approved expenses above those covered by the mill rate will be paid 100 per cent by the government.

Municipalities however, must provide the taxes raised by 12 mills, and rural areas must provide the amount raised on nine mills.

In addition, Victoria will soon publish a new and increased scale of "approved salaries."

THE G  
the new  
000,000  
But this  
increase  
which  
municip  
In ans  
that mun  
tually pa  
has this  
The  
schools  
The "nev  
35 per c  
reduce t  
OTHER  
creases  
be able  
creases.  
In add  
of shari  
there is  
capital  
AT PR  
school b  
tween n  
ment, ut  
equals  
raised b  
the prov  
the mun  
Under  
province  
50-50 for  
to 25 fo  
after th  
90 per c  
pays 10



## Bill increases B.C. education grants

Wednesday, March 12, 1958

# New law allows schools to 'fire' lazy pupils at 15

## Teacher blacklist banned in new negotiating setup

### ON TAXES:

VICTORIA — The government will increase its educational grants to municipalities to about \$4,750,000 under the terms of the new Public Schools Act introduced in the Legislature Tuesday.

While government grants will be up, municipalities must, in turn, base their own contributions on a higher tax rate.

The government says this will bring relief on a varied scale for municipal taxpayers.

This is how the new system compares with the present method of sharing education costs:

The present formula uses a 1955 ruling. It provides that the government will approve school costs on the basis of 1955 costs. Rural districts pay the amount of money raised by seven mills taxation; municipalities pay on 10 mills.

THE GOVERNMENT pays the rest, until the level of 1955 costs is reached. After that point, the government pays 75 per cent of additional costs; the municipalities pay 25 per cent.

In a period of steadily rising costs, this 75-25 sawoff has forced most school mills rates above the basic seven and 10 mill rate.

THE NEW ACT eliminates the 1955 cost level.

School budgets will be approved on the basis of current costs. Approved expenses above those covered by the mill rate will be paid 100 per cent by the government.

Municipalities however, must provide the taxes raised by 12 mills, and rural areas must provide the amount raised on nine mills.

In addition, Victoria will soon publish a new and increased scale of "approved salaries."

### ON STUDENTS:

VICTORIA — Lazy students can be "fired" from schools throughout B.C. at the age of 15.

This is one of a dozen precedent-shattering provisions of the new Public Schools Act introduced in the Legislature Tuesday.

The bill provides the first major revision of school legislation in almost 86 years. It provides:

● That children 15 and over may be prohibited from attending schools if

they fail to apply themselves to studies or "fail to comply with the rules and regulations of the schools."

● School boards — rather than principals — will decide the proper dress for students;

● Any person — including students — can be fined for causing disturbances in classrooms, or at functions at schools during non-teaching hours;

● School inspectors will be renamed district superintendents;

● Teachers still cannot run for school board office. The government feels that a person can't be an employer and an employee at the same time;

● School boards are prohibited from refusing to negotiate with teachers;

● Teachers and their organizations are prohibited from "blacklisting" certain schools or school boards.

The new act also establishes new bargaining machinery. This includes provision for conciliation by two conciliators, one appointed by teachers and one by the board. This is a new concept in labor negotiations.

THE MACHINERY provides that the opposing sides bargain on their own initially. If they do not reach a decision by Oct. 31, the dispute must be submitted to the two negotiators.

If there is still no agreement by Nov. 15, the dispute goes to arbitration with the chairman appointed by nominees from both sides, or failing that by a Supreme Court judge. The final and binding arbitration award must be made by Dec. 31.

THE GOVERNMENT estimates the new system would cost \$9,000,000 if it paid the full cost. But this is cut to \$4,750,000 by increases in the basic tax rate which must be provided by municipalities.

In answer to early criticisms that municipalities appear to actually pay more, the government has this explanation:

The average mill rate for schools is actually about 15 mills. The "new deal" will enable about 35 per cent of school boards to reduce the school tax.

OTHERS EXPECTING rate increases of five or 10 mills may be able to settle for smaller increases.

In addition to the new method of sharing operating expenses, there is a new formula covering capital costs:

AT PRESENT, the cost of new school buildings is split 50-50 between municipality and government, until the school board share equals the amount of money raised by three mills. After that the province pays 75 per cent and the municipality 25 per cent.

Under the new formula, the province will continue to share 50-50 for the first three mills; 75 to 25 for the next 1 1/4 mills, and after that, the government pays 90 per cent and the municipality pays 10 per cent.

THE CLAUSE permitting "firing" of 15-year-olds who are not diligently pursuing their studies is a new departure for B.C. In the past, it has been "suggested" that students over 16 remove themselves.

The new plan has been tried successfully in Calgary.

Provision that school boards rather than principals set the proper dress in schools eliminates incidents in which individual principals have sometimes decided slacks are out of place in the classroom. Now the board has that worry.

### OTHER PROVISIONS:

School poll taxes are eliminated.

School boards must pay a share of the costs of electing trustees.

Municipalities will be able to tax school board property which produces revenue for purposes other than school operation.

Government loans to pupils may be cancelled "under certain conditions."

## The new Public Schools Act

British Columbia's new Public Schools Act — the first major revision of provincial school legislation in almost 86 years — applies common sense to a number of our education problems.

But, in its financial aspects, it seems to increase government authority over school spending at the direct expense of the school boards.

Probably the change with the widest general interest is that which provides that children 15 and over may be barred from classes if they fail to apply themselves to studies or decline to comply with school rules.

At a time when school costs are crushingly high it is expensive—and futile—to try to educate the boy or girl who is completely unfitted or unwilling to continue with studies. Not only does it fail to benefit such students but it seriously hampers the education of those anxious and able to get the most out of their schooling.

At the same time it must be recognized that the power to "fire" a pupil from school should be used with the greatest discretion and sense of responsibility. It should be a last resort after every effort to adjust him to one of the many school programs has completely failed.

Also government and education cannot consider that they have met their full responsibilities when they dismiss inept students at the age of 15 or 16. What happens to these boys and girls when they are barred from the classroom? If they lounge around the streets and get into trouble the social and economic loss may be even greater than if they had remained in school.

Probably the answers here are the establishment of some system whereby a check can be kept on the activities of pupils who have been "fired"; institution of a wider system of apprenticeships in the various trades and industries, and a night-school program specially tailored to the needs of those who have been encouraged to leave school and who have been apprenticed.

There are other sensible provisions in the new act. School boards rather than

principals will decide the proper dress for students, something that should eliminate petty squabbles between parents and teachers.

Any person — and that includes students — can be fined for causing disturbances in classrooms or at school functions during non-teaching hours. This arms the teachers with a potent weapon for keeping order, something that has been sadly lacking.

Provisions of the act prohibiting school boards from refusing to negotiate with teachers and teachers from "black-listing" school districts dovetail with the new machinery for settling disputes between teachers and boards.

Instead of going straight to arbitration after negotiation the teachers and boards will henceforth be required to submit to conciliation procedures with binding arbitration the final outcome if conciliation is unsuccessful.

If both teachers and boards enter into conciliation in the proper spirit it should not be necessary for anyone to try to "blacklist" any school board. Further, a great deal of friction and bad feeling might be eliminated.

The new formula for sharing school costs between the government and the municipalities is extremely complicated and it is not yet clear how Vancouver and the other school districts of the province will make out individually.

There is a disturbing suggestion, however, that the new cost-sharing will reduce the power of the school boards over their systems and increase the authority of the government.

The present formula provides that beyond the level of 1955 school costs the government pays 75 per cent and the municipalities 25 per cent.

Under the new act the 1955 cost level is eliminated. Approved expenses above those covered by increased municipal mill rates for school purposes will be paid 100 per cent by the government.

Since the government will be paying the piper for all "approved" expenses above the local school mill rate it will probably want to call the tune as well.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## Public puzzl 'We'll need s to figure ga

School and municipal authorities debated Wednesday whether to sing or through the complexities of the introduced by the government.

Most officials said the extra losses for municipal and city taxpayers until Victoria releases a of "approved" teachers' salaries.

And even then, they indicated, it's going to require much sliderule activity to see who comes out on top.

On some "labor-management" points there was clear cut controversy.

**THE BAN** ON so-called "black-listing" by teachers of school boards (or vice versa) was lauded by B.C. School Trustees and criticized by B.C. Teachers' Federation.

BCTF general secretary Charles D. Ovans said the provision was "an unjustifiable infringement upon the freedom of action of teachers."

**HE SAID** he hoped the government would take a second look at that section, and added that he thought teachers would "voluntarily" choose not to teach in areas where the boards have not bargained in good faith.

And he warned that should the legislation stand, the government might "be inviting or even compelling teachers to consider using the ultimate weapon — the strike."

**PRESIDENT LORNE** Aggett of the B.C. School Trustees' Association said the blacklisting ban would "eliminate the nonsense that has been going on."

He said he was trying to find out the penalties for such an offence. (In Victoria, The Province was told it was covered by the Summary Convictions Act, which provides a \$500 ceiling on fines. In practice, the fine might be much less.)

**THE TWO GROUPS** also divided sharply on the provision for conciliators. Mr. Aggett said it was "unnecessary expense and waste of time" but Mr. Ovans approved both the conciliation machinery and another clause which compels school boards to negotiate.

Some of the provisions of the new act cut little ice in Vancouver, although they may lead to changes in smaller communities.

**A VANCOUVER** School Board spokesman said clauses covering lazy students and manner of dress will make no difference to city schools.

The Vancouver board maintains it has always had the power to expel children of any age under the rules of Council of Public Instruction (which is actually the provincial cabinet).

Usually it prefers to ask parents to withdraw such children voluntarily. Last year 100 were withdrawn and one was expelled.

## Wage security act sought by Socred

Province Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA** — Social Creditor R. O. Newton, Columbia, asked the government Wednesday for a "wages security act" to prevent workmen from losing earned wages from companies.

Mr. Newton said he made the suggestion because there are wage liens of \$56,000 against the Selkirk Spruce Company at Donald, 14 miles north of Golden.

Partial text of Mr. Newton's statement:

On December 3, 1956, the mill was burned causing a six month closure. During this period some families moved but most remained, some collecting unemployment insurance or helping to rebuild.

In July 1957 the mill reopened and operated until Nov. 21, 1957, although there had been no wage cheques issued since Oct. 10.

**THE MILL CLOSED** on Nov. 21 with no warning and no indication there would be any wage cheques. All the men were told was that the company, which is a subsidiary of Black Diamond Lumber Company in Seattle had gone bankrupt.

We are concerned with approximately one-fifteenth of the indebtedness, that is wages liens \$56,000 and forest service stumpage \$17,765.

**THE GOVERNMENT'S** claim for stumpage is fully covered by log and lumber, but payment is not being pressed in consideration of the wage claims.

Currently, no action in settlement is being taken, since the wage claims in part are being challenged in the courts, and the forestry branch are awaiting legal decision before any move is made to dispose of any of the assets under seizure in order not to prejudice wage claims.

## WCB studies B.C. medical centres plan

Province Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA** — The Workmen's Compensation Board is considering setting up regional medical centres in B.C.

Labor Minister Wicks made the disclosure in the legislature during consideration of his estimates.

"There is a good deal in the argument," he said of opposition references to the subject. "It could be quite expensive. But the decentralization (of workmen's compensation) might be very commendable."

The minister's statement came during a long afternoon of debate.



# Public schools act puzzles authorities

## 'We'll need slide rule' to figure gains, losses

School and municipal authorities couldn't decide Wednesday whether to sing or weep as they fought through the complexities of the new Public Schools Act introduced by the government.

Most officials said the extent of possible gains or losses for municipal and city taxpayers cannot be computed until Victoria releases a promised new schedule of "approved" teachers' salaries.

And even then, they indicated, it's going to require much sliderule activity to see who comes out on top.

On some "labor-management" points there was clear cut controversy.

**THE BAN ON** so-called "blacklisting" by teachers of school boards (or vice versa) was lauded by B.C. School Trustees and criticized by B.C. Teachers' Federation.

BCTF general secretary Charles D. Ovans said the provision was "an unjustifiable infringement upon the freedom of action of teachers."

**HE SAID** he hoped the government would take a second look at that section, and added that he thought teachers would "voluntarily" choose not to teach in areas where the boards have not bargained in good faith.

And he warned that should the legislation stand, the government might "be inviting or even compelling teachers to consider using the ultimate weapon — the strike."

**PRESIDENT LORNE** Aggett of the B.C. School Trustees' Association said the blacklisting ban would "eliminate the nonsense that has been going on."

He said he was trying to find out the penalties for such an offence. (In Victoria, The Province was told it was covered by the Summary Convictions Act, which provides a \$500 ceiling on fines. In practice, the fine might be much less.)

**THE TWO GROUPS** also divided sharply on the provision for conciliators. Mr. Aggett said it was "unnecessary expense and waste of time" but Mr. Ovans approved both the conciliation machinery and another clause which compels school boards to negotiate.

Some of the provisions of the new act cut little ice in Vancouver, although they may lead to changes in smaller communities.

**A VANCOUVER** School Board spokesman said clauses covering lazy students and manner of dress will make no difference to city schools.

The Vancouver board maintains it has always had the power to expel children of any age under the rules of Council of Public Instruction (which is actually the provincial cabinet).

Usually it prefers to ask parents to withdraw such children voluntarily. Last year 100 were withdrawn and one was expelled.

**IN VANCOUVER,** interpretation of the law concerning dress for school hours has been left to the individual principal. It will remain so.

But both clauses may clear up a situation in smaller municipalities where responsibility on such "touchy" matters has been shunted back and forth between principal and school board.

### From Page One

## STRIKE

asked if a complete power breakdown was likely.

"No matter how long the strike continues, our engineers will be able to maintain service."

Said B.C. Federation of Labor's Bill Black:

"Mr. Gregory has declared in no uncertain terms where he and his party stand with regard to organized labor.

"He had better understand that as far as labor is concerned it will have no part of compulsory arbitration. It is diametrically opposed to such a move.

"We are living under a free enterprise system which Mr. Gregory and his associates support, and the workers have as much right as anyone else to sell their commodity for what they can get.

"Labor people would do well to note the position the Liberal party has taken."

**EMERGENCY SERVICES** in Vancouver are well equipped with auxiliary power units should there be a major power failure.

Hospitals, most radio stations, police and the B.C. Telephone Co. all have emergency power ready to be used at a moment's notice.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## Stop strikes in utilities, Liberal urges

By GORDON McCALLUM  
Province Victoria Bureau

**VICTORIA**—A Liberal member of the legislature pleaded with the government Wednesday to do something to end the possibility of a power blackout in B.C.

Electricians are on strike and service is being maintained by B.E. Electric supervisors.

But, Liberal George Gregory, Victoria, told the legislature, there might arise a situation which they could not handle.

To him the situation is grave.

"There simply can not be a power failure in this province," Mr. Gregory said.

**HE SAID THAT** "if necessary," even his own party would sponsor legislation which would stop strikes in industries controlled by the Public Utilities Commission and would make arbitration compulsory — with compulsory acceptance of the awards.

"I ask what the situation will be if the officers (of B. C. Electric) can not keep the electricity going through the wires?" Mr. Gregory said.

He said many B.C. homes are now heated by oil and without electricity the oil burners will not function.

He saw this situation if power fails:

**THOUSANDS** of homes, many of them with small children, could not cook a meal.

Every car would stop because electrical gasoline pumps could not function; "there would be a complete tieup in transportation."

"**BUSINESS** would be at a standstill" because there would be no transportation and no elevator services.

There would be no telephone service.

No police radios.

**LATER, AT THE** night sitting, Don Robinson, Socred MLA and railway trade unionist, said if the government brought in legislation making arbitration compulsory, he would support it.

Mr. Robinson, a PGE locomotive engineer "and a trade unionist all my life," warned the electricians might force the government to take action.

**"THIS GOVERNMENT,"** said Mr. Gregory, "has said to the civil servants they can not strike because the government must go on."

"Power failure would be far worse than the situation would be if there were no government for a couple of weeks."

**"I CALL ON** the minister (Labor Minister Lyle Wicks) right now to say what he is going to do."

At the night sitting Mr. Gregory said he will have a notice on the order paper today asking for labor legislation amendments which would make arbitration compulsory in any union which is in a business governed by the public utilities commission.

**MR. GREGORY** asked for a statement by Labor Minister Wicks and received only an assurance that "if in due course" some action becomes necessary "the government policy at that time will be enunciated."

### 'Impossible' says BCE

"Virtually impossible!"

That was BCE vice-president Tom Ingledow's reaction when

(Continued on Next Page)  
(See STRIKE)

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

## Victoria rejects Hansard reporting

VICTORIA — A Victoria Social Crediter voted against the government on Thursday as it turned down a Hansard reporting system for the House.

"Hansard would be a wonderful guide," said the Social Crediter, Don Smith. He said he would vote for the resolution, sponsored by the CCF, which asked for Hansard, and "to my regret it will be a vote against the government."

THE SUBJECT sparked a debate which took more than an hour.

CCF leader Robert Strachan accused the government of being afraid to "put on the record."

The official turn-down of the CCF resolution came from Provincial Secretary Wesley Black.

He claimed that members, on both sides of the House, would "use it to propagandize."

The government voted down, 32 to 12, a CCF resolution asking it to seek to return control of B.C. telephones to the provincial Public Utilities Commission.

It was a solid "no" vote from the government side; the CCF, Liberals and Independent Mel Bryan, North Vancouver, former Social Crediter, voted for the resolution.

CCF leader Robert Strachan said the government should attempt to get the telephone firm's control transferred from the federal department of transport.

HE WANTED, he said, provincial control "to protect the citizens of British Columbia. As a consumer I feel they need that protection."

## CHAMBER MEETS KIERNAN TODAY

### Qualified approval for bill

B.C. & Yukon Chamber of Mines has given qualified approval to the proposed amendment to the B.C. Mineral Act but strong opposes some sections including the requirement that the holder of a 21-year lease must do annual assessment work in addition to paying an annual rental fee.

Representatives of the group will meet with Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan in Victoria today to discuss Bill 70, an act to amend the mineral act.

At meetings this week the chamber generally agreed the bill is an improvement over Bill 91 passed last session.

SECTIONS of the amendment approved by the group are: the re-affirmation of the right of prospectors to hold claims indefinitely by doing \$100 assessment work or paying cash in lieu of it; making possible the obtaining of crown grants by certain individuals and companies; elimination of the five-year retention lease and the elimination of some of the discretionary powers of the minister of mines. The group objected particularly to the "excessive high rate" of the annual assessment

which the act sets on the 21-year lease.

A STATEMENT issued by the group added: "Members of the

chamber would also like to know why the automatic renewal of the 21-year lease is given only to properties that are or have been in production when other leases may have had equally large sums of money spent on developing them but, for various reasons, could not be brought into production.

"The question is also asked why were not all those individuals and companies who had claims in good standing on or before Feb. 28, 1957, allowed to proceed to crown granting if they so desired."

THE CHAMBER, the statement added holds the opinion that the rights of all mineral claim holders should be fully expressed in the mineral act "without recourse to discretion on the part of any persons or persons."

The statement said the Mineral Property Taxation Act passed during the last session "has had a very detrimental effect on the mining industry by stagnating the search for and development of B.C.'s iron resources, curtailing prospecting activity and discouraging investment of outside capital in this industry."

## Gas station hours left to councils

VICTORIA — The government may let municipal councils fix B.C. service station hours as a solution to a campaign against its proposed regulations.

The municipal committee studying the regulations recommended this after hundreds of telegrams flooded into Victoria from B.C. service station operators.

The operators mainly opposed a proposed municipal act amendment which would have made operators, who wanted to stay open until midnight, work right around the clock.

The committee's recommendations on service station hours, general store hours, and other changes in the Municipal Act are due to reach the Legislature today.

## Well anyway his life has all been uphill

VICTORIA (CP) — Premier Bennett appeared to have turned back critic in the Legislature Thursday.

Tom Uphill (Ind.-Ferne), during a debate on establishing a verbatim system of recording House proceedings, told the legislature:

"My life is an open book."

"Well," said Mr. Bennett, "I hope nobody reads it."

## ABOUT C

### Teen their

Province Victoria

VICTORIA —

should parents b

teenagers' house

Best way: Par

stairs in the

room, the parents

What about l

cuts?

"Old stuff. W

was a year or tw

How about cars

"Just like a big

to be. They are ou

life."

These were some

swers given b; three

Friday to the soci

committee which i

juvenile delinquency.

THE BOYS, John

Gary Harkness and Go

fascinated the commi

one generation spe

another.

## Discipline

They all come from

ver's King Edward h

And they told the co

feel discipline there is

At the committee's

they talked about car

haircuts, and a lot

things.

MRS. LOIS HAGG

about parents being

parties, and Gordon

it's not good "dancin

girl and having a par

ing in the corner starin

And John Thompson

standard; Best place

teenagers to be in the

and the parents clos

stairs.

BUT THE BOYS a

there are too many pa

get out of the house

children have parties.

## Parents go

"They say, 'Good, th

having a party, so w

out," one said.

GORDON CAREY f

lot of parents don't kn

their children are goin

"We might mention

dinner table and we m

About cars: It is an

of freedom.

Said John Thomps

have a little bit of fre

that's all we want."

BERT PRICE, Soci

Vancouver-Burrard, w

there is too much ag

## Ferry rates investigation turned down

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—A legislative committee inquiry into rates charged on the Vancouver-Powell River ferry operation by Black Ball Ferries was turned down by the government on Thursday.

The move was made by Tony Gargrave, (CCF-MacKenzie) Powell River is the biggest community in his sprawling riding.

Mr. Gargrave's motion was defeated 32 to 10.

The Gargrave resolution was turned down after Highways Minister Gagliardi said the government could not abrogate an agreement made in 1951 with Black Ball by the previous government.

But Mr. Gargrave, in another resolution, got unanimous support that there should be "effective public control" of public transportation where it is operated as a monopoly under government award.

Mr. Gargrave said the contract with Black Ball allowed the ferry company to increase its rates by 100 per cent without permission from the highways minister, increases above that figure would have to get ministerial approval.



ABOUT CARS, HAIRCUTS, PARTIES

# Teen-agers tell MLAs their side of the case

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — Where should parents be at the teenagers' house party?

Best way: Party downstairs in the recreation room, the parents upstairs. What about long hair cuts?

"Old stuff. Why that was a year or two ago."

How about cars?

"Just like a bicycle used to be. They are our way of life."

These were some of the answers given by three teen-agers Friday to the social welfare committee which is probing juvenile delinquency.

THE BOYS, John Thompson, Gary Harkness and Gordon Carey fascinated the committee. It was one generation speaking to another.

## Discipline good

They all come from Vancouver's King Edward high school. And they told the committee they feel discipline there is good.

At the committee's request they talked about cars, dances, haircuts, and a lot of other things.

MRS. LOIS HAGGEN asked about parents being present at parties, and Gordon Carey said it's not good "dancing with a girl and having a parent standing in the corner staring at you."

And John Thompson set the standard: Best place is for the teenagers to be in the rec room, and the parents close by upstairs.

BUT THE BOYS agreed that there are too many parents who get out of the house when their children have parties.

## Parents go out

"They say, 'Good, the kids are having a party, so we can go out,'" one said.

GORDON CAREY felt that a lot of parents don't know where their children are going at night. "We might mention it at the dinner table and we might not."

About cars: It is an expression of freedom.

Said John Thompson: "We have a little bit of freedom and that's all we want."

BERT PRICE, Social Credit, Vancouver-Burrard, wondered if there is too much age-grouping

in parties nowadays; that there is not enough all-age group parties with everyone there from babies to Grandma.

"Parents don't seem so interested in attending student parties," said Gordon Carey. "Perhaps there is not so much of the family circle now."

AND WHO should be the boss in the family?

"Both," interjected Mrs. Haggen.

But there was no direct answer on that question.

## Not all smart

John Thompson said that perhaps there is this weakness in the educational system:

"NOT EVERYONE can be smart. Not everyone can pass his exams and be an engineer no matter how hard they try." He said he felt there should be more channelling into vocational schools.

As it is now, he complained, the boy who is not smart comes out of school without ability to go further, and without a trade training.

"He's just a nobody," he said.

THE KING EDWARD students said that drinking by teenagers is done "to a very minor extent," and that they personally do not know of any drug addicts among high school students.

They said there is delinquency among adults, too, and delinquent adults encourage delinquency among children.

THEY PROTESTED that adults too often are inclined to think of all teenagers as delinquents because a few of them get into trouble.

## Lack of control

They felt there are many delinquents actually who are in their 20's rather than in their teens.

They blamed a lack of parental control and the influence of bad reading material and bad movies, for some teenagers being publicly vulgar to girls.

THE TEENAGERS appeared after a submission by the Boys' Clubs of Canada.

Ian Barclay, Vancouver, appeared for the western regional committee of the organization.

He said there should be greater emphasis on "juvenile decency" rather than delinquency.

"It is our belief that boredom breeds delinquency," he said. And, he said, the boys' clubs have an open door policy.

MR. BARCLAY said the greatest natural resource in the nation is youth. And unlike other resources, it is too difficult to get a money investment in it.

He felt prevention work among juveniles would cost less than 1 per cent of corrective costs.

HE COMPLAINED that newspapers too often "play up" the bad things juveniles do, and don't pay attention to the fact that "99 per cent of our children are doing a terrific job."

Committee chairman John Tisdalle, Social Credit, Saanich, disagreed with him. He said newspapers report, at great length, every scholarship award, every heroic action by teenagers.

"I feel that what sticks in the public mind is the bad things," he said.

## Speed limit committee appointed

VICTORIA (CP) — Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi has appointed a committee to study the possibility of increasing B.C.'s 50-mile-per-hour highway speed limit.

Mr. Gaglardi made the announcement following a call from the Associated Boards of Trade of the Fraser Valley and the Lower Mainland for an increase to 60 miles an hour where it is feasible.

"We want to be cautious about this," he said. "We don't want to kill people, but if we can increase the limit and retain the safety factor we will."

Members of the committee are chiefly from Mr. Gaglardi's department. They include the deputy minister, assistant deputy, members of the department's traffic branch, an RCMP representative and a member of the B.C. Auto Association.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1958

## GOODBYE HANSARD

By  
GORDON  
McCALLUM  
Province  
Victoria  
Bureau



VICTORIA — When the legislature voted down a move this week to have Hansard — a shorthand system of recording the debates — this debate itself showed how useful it could be.

Because even in this hour-long discussion, the members could not agree on what some other honorable members had said 10 minutes earlier. And there was no official record to which they could turn.

The nub of the argument was: Is it really necessary to keep a record of what was said? As provincial secretary Wesley Black observed: The record that really matters is what is done, and found in the provincial statutes.

He argued that a Hansard would be something members on both side of the House would use as a propaganda interest. And, for this reason, and perhaps others, he felt a Hansard was not "in the best interests of this legislature."

★ ★ ★

The Opposition felt that too often government members say one thing in the House, and another out on the hustings, and it wanted to keep the record straight.

But apart from these arguments, this much also can be said: A Hansard would never record some of the color of the House.

It wouldn't say when Premier Bennett is annoyed, he turns his back on an Opposition speaker, and sits facing the back row on the cabinet desks.

It wouldn't say that Highway Minister Gagliardi's "Aye" and "No" votes go booming out over all the rest put together.

And it couldn't record all of the "wisecracks" which are flung back and forth across the House.

## Victoria accused of penny grasping

VICTORIA (CP)—Criticism over the government's "bingo bill" was voiced by John Squire (CCF, Alberni) in the legislature Friday. He said the government was to be criticized for always getting "its sticky little hands on amusement taxes from high school and charitable" organizations.

The bill—under The Hospital Construction Aid Tax—makes bingo subject to the 10 per cent amusement tax.

It was one of the quietest days of the legislature as the House went through final and second reading of bills.

More than 30 bills were given third reading and now await only formal assent of Lieut.-Gov. Frank Ross before becoming law.

One of the bills passed increased the B.C. power commission borrowing power to \$250,000,000 from \$210,000,000. Another upped the Pacific Great Eastern borrowing power to \$110,000,000 from \$80,000,000.

THE LEGISLATURE also gave final reading to an act authorizing the government to guarantee borrowings of municipalities for waterworks and sewage projects. The move was outlined by Premier Bennett in his budget debate.

Tony Gargrave (CCF—MacKenzie), said the government was guilty of "verbal nonsense" in changing the names of forest management licences to tree farms.

Mr. Gargrave said the changes in the Forests Act were "proof positive that the forestry policy of the government was a failure."

"The government still is awarding priceless tracts of forest land for perpetuity, but in 21-year pieces."

MR. GARGRAVE said "it's the same old principle of private control of our resources."

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan accused the government of a "timid approach" which showed that "something still is basically wrong."

Mr. Williston said the government and the opposition views were different and would never be reconciled in debate.

## Naturopath bill passed— in one minute

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA—It took the legislature one minute and 20 seconds Friday to decide to let naturopathic physicians control their own profession.

The bill allows naturopaths to set up their own control board. There was no debate.

Randolph Harding, CCF, Kaslo-Slocan, said a Hansard would be a valuable record of the House for historians 100 years from now. And then he appealed — it appeared quite obvious — to the vanity of Mr. Bennett himself.

Why, he said, people 50 years from now would think it priceless if they had a tape recording of the Social Credit prime minister of today — so they could actually listen to him as he appeared in the House. Mr. Bennett chuckled with the rest of them, but it looked for a minute as if Mr. Bennett sort of liked the idea.

But by that time, the government already had indicated it wasn't going to have any kind of Hansard, shorthand, tape recordings or anything else, so this appeal to Mr. Bennett was lost.



MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1958

## New B.C. law requires guarantee in writing

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — A bill introduced in the Legislature says: "An act for the prevention of frauds."

That doesn't mean that the government is just getting around to making a law against frauds.

It means this: B.C. law has been based on an old British law passed in 1688.

AND OVER the years, there has been many a courtroom fight on whether the guarantee of an indemnity (such as guaranteeing another man's debts) is enforceable if given verbally, or whether it had to be in writing.

The point was so involved, in law, that law students had to spend a week or more on it

before they got the full drift. Many lawyers have called the point "a legal trap."

SO THE NEW legislation means, officials explained: a guarantee of indemnity is not enforceable if it is not in writing.

The new law: "No guarantee or indemnity shall be enforceable by action unless evidenced in writing, signed by the party to be charged or by his agent, but any consideration given for the guarantee or indemnity need not appear in the writing."

## B.C.'s statutes slated for big rewrite job

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—British Columbia's statutes are to be rewritten, with the job finished by the end of the year. It is the first overhaul of the statutes in 10 years.

It doesn't mean new laws.

It means that law officers sit down, start with existing laws, write the subsequent amendments into the originals and wrap it up as a sparkling new job.

There will be a new departure: The various departmental regulations are to be done up in one brand new book by the year end.

Under many government statutes, the cabinet may pass regulations. The only requirement now is that after they have been passed, they are to be published in the official gazette.

But the legislation calls for a departmental review of all the regulations. The out-of-date ones will be thrown out, and the remainder, for all departments, published under one cover.

Tuesday, March 18, 1958

# Court now must decide what bingo game means

## Committee feels 'licked'

VICTORIA (CP)—The legislative committee investigating the closure of Britannia copper mine said it appeared to be "licked" with respect to making the company take action.

The mine, owned by the Howe Sound Company of Salt Lake City, Utah, closed on Feb. 28. About 800 men were thrown out of work.

The owners were accused of "thumbing their noses" at the committee.

"They have ducked out to Salt Lake City," said Don Robinson (SC-Lillooet). The mine is in his riding.

The committee held a 90-minute meeting Monday, but appeared no closer to a solution than when the hearings started two weeks ago.

Chairman Bert Price (SC-Vancouver-Burrard), said it appeared the committee was "licked" but disagreed with a recommendation the government take over operation of the mine.

## Opposition move trims Bennett's power in bill

VICTORIA (CP) — The opposition forced two amendments in the legislature during the early part of the Monday afternoon sitting.

One amendment was in the controversial bingo bill, an act bringing bingo under the Hospital Construction Aid Taxation Act. Bingo is legal in B.C. if it is held for charitable purposes.

The amendment removed from the minister of finance, Premier Bennett, the power to determine what constituted a contest for the purposes of taxation.

It was proposed by attorney-general Robert Bonner and seconded by George Gregory (L., Victoria).

The section under dispute added the following definition:

"Contest includes the game commonly known as bingo and any other game which is certified by the minister to be similar thereto."

OPPOSITION members claimed the section gave unnecessarily wide powers of definition to the minister.

It was amended by removing the words "which is certified by the minister to be."

THE SECOND amendment passed by the legislature deleted a whole section of a technical act dealing with gasoline taxes.

## B.C. takes step to enter joint health scheme

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Legislation to permit an agreement for a joint B.C.-federal scheme of hospital insurance was introduced in the Legislature Monday.

Officials explained: Without definite word on how much Ottawa will share in hospital insurance and out-patient service, this legislation opens the door to negotiations by B.C.

Two amendments were introduced:

One cuts out the 70-cents-per-day contribution which municipalities had to make for its patients in hospital.

THE SECOND enables the provincial health department to negotiate with Ottawa on the general hospital insurance scheme.

It was learned that the biggest stumbling block is how far Ottawa will go in recognizing "out-patient" and "diagnostic services."

This means, will Ottawa and B.C. pay for the x-rays—taken in clinics but not in hospitals—that are part of the diagnostic services when a patient goes to a doctor for a checkup?

IT APPEARED there would be one big change: Up to now, a person is not eligible for hospital

insurance until he has been in B.C. for a year.

This is going to be shortened considerably. In fact, if other provinces are in the agreement at the same time, the time limit may be wiped out.

But there is going to be a careful provision that U.S. residents cannot come up and avail themselves of "free" hospitalization and diagnostic services.

Officials said that if agreement is reached, there could be reduction in Medical Services Association charges to members, which now must include out-of-hospital diagnostic services.

It was anticipated that agreement to cover diagnostic services could relieve some pressure on the hospitals. Now, officials feel, some patients are sent to hospital—for free coverage—merely to get the in-hospital diagnostic services covered by BCHS.

## Naturopath may give some drugs

VICTORIA—The government Monday amended the Naturopathic Physicians Act allowing naturopaths to administer certain types of "drugs."

Health Minister Eric Martin said the change does not permit naturopaths to prescribe, or administer, drugs which require a prescription.

But it was pointed out that a technicality in the act as originally written has been straightened out—previously naturopaths could not prescribe aspirin or "even a glass of water."

The change was made when the bill which allows naturopath physicians to police their own profession was given approval in committee of the whole house.

NEW B.C.

## Emergency for

VICTORIA—The government is planning legislation to allow up an emergency such as the British

## Turner urges Election Act revamping

VICTORIA (CP) — I for revamping of B.C.'s Act and for redistributing seats in the legislature, it was told.

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) said the redistribution should be done by a majority of the judiciary to ensure impartiality.

Election machinery streamlined, he said, under federal and provincial law should be operated by one body which would be "impartial," always operating, keeping lists up to date.

He said the present distribution of voters' lists in federal, provincial and municipal elections was not good for anyone "exceptably printers."

## Bryan of 'an

Province Victoria  
VICTORIA—Mel Bryan, who a Social Credit government's amazing stand night on some flood control effort.

He said some houses on Avenue were flooded last year, 1956.

Recreation minister said this followed construction of a road in the park.



## NEW B.C. LEGISLATION

# Emergency fund for credit unions

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA—The government has introduced legislation to allow the B.C. credit union movement to set up an emergency fund to deal with sudden troubles such as the Britannia mine closure.

The move would enable an annual assessment of credit unions of up to one-fifth of 1 per cent of their capital and deposits. The levy could be continued until 1 per cent of all funds was collected.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Bonner said the legislation could provide \$500,000.

The money would be made available temporarily, to credit union depositors who are unable to get their funds out because their union's creditors are suddenly all out of work.

IN VANCOUVER, R. A. Monruffet, managing director of the B.C. Credit Union League, said the legislation was introduced at the credit union's request.

It will not be put into effect until the credit unions ask that this be done. This might be very soon, he said.

Depositors in the Britannia credit union have no way of getting their money out until outstanding loans are repaid. If the loans are not fully repaid the credit union might be liquidated, with depositors getting only part of their funds.

"THERE IS NO way at the moment for the central to funnel funds into a credit union," he said.

Other credit unions have made personal loans to some Britannia depositors, taking their deposits as partial security, he said.

Under the new scheme, creditors would still be required to pay off their loans as soon as able.

## Turner urges Election Act revamping

VICTORIA (CP) — It's time for revamping of B.C.'s Election Act and for redistribution of seats in the legislature, the House was told.

Arthur Turner (CCF, Vancouver East) said the redistribution should be done by a member of the judiciary to ensure impartiality.

Election machinery should be streamlined, he said, urging the federal and provincial elections be operated by one body which would be "impartial . . . and always operating, keeping voters' lists up to date."

He said the present duplication of voters' lists in federal, provincial and municipal elections is not good for anyone "except possibly printers."

# Bryan accuses government of 'amazing stand' on flood

Province Victoria Bureau  
VICTORIA—Independent Mel Bryan, who quit being a Social Creditor, accused the government of "an amazing stand" Tuesday night on some north shore flood control efforts.

He said some homes on Burns Avenue were flooded in December, 1956.

Recreation minister Westwood said this followed construction of a road in the park by the parks

division and of a ditch to carry away water.

MR. BRYAN said the government, after the flooding, ordered a diversion into Quarry Creek; but a resident there said the government and municipality would be responsible for damage to his property. So, said Mr. Bryan, the government ordered diversion blocked, and took the stand that the municipality can solve the problem.

He asked the government to

take responsibility and "abandon its completely foolish insistence that run-off conditions in Seymour provincial park require municipal action." He accused the government of "dangerous disregard of the lives and property of Burns avenue residents."

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1958

## PREMIER ON DEFENSIVE

# Took five minutes to decide millions

VICTORIA—The legislature early Wednesday voted down a CCF motion, 29 to 12, to stop the payment of an extra \$12,000,000 in debt reduction. The CCF wanted the money used for works projects.

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—It took the Legislature less than five minutes Tuesday night to vote \$56,157,500 of the people's money.

That was the total of capital expenditures out of income for Trans-Canada Highway construction, highways, bridges and other jobs.

The millions rattled off like clockwork.

It followed by a few minutes a tame debate on recreation Minister Westwood's estimates in which not one question was asked about parks development.

The \$56,000,000 plus vote included:

\$17,870,000 for Trans-Canada highway construction with another \$24,585,000 in federal money for that project.

\$27,130,000 for general highways, bridges (but not toll bridges), ferry landings, etc.; \$1,700,000 for forest development roads; \$1,500,000 for mining roads.

And right at the end of the long list, Premier Bennett had inserted an additional \$12,000,000 for debt redemption.

WHEN THE CCF protested that the premier should not put extra money into debt redemption at a time of increasing unemployment, it opened the floodgates to an election speech by the premier.

He accused the CCF of being opposed to debt redemption while the opposition shouted that its words were being twisted.

HE SAID OTTAWA'S "so-called public works program is just on paper, it is just a myth because it has so much money to pay into debt redemption."

"When we next have an election in this province in 1960 or 1961, we will be debt free."

Gordon Dowling, (CCF, Burnaby), told the premier "that speech was all right last year, but it's different now that we have so many unemployed."

THE PREMIER dismissed that and other CCF comments as "petty criticism."

## Westwood sally shoots down Nimsick game

VICTORIA — A plea by Leo Nimsick, CCF, Cranbrook, in the legislature Tuesday night for more money for the game department died amidst uproarious laughter.

After Nimsick's 30-minute speech Recreation Minister Earle Westwood rose and told the house:

"He seeks to conserve the game by shooting the bull."

Premier Bennett and Highways Minister Gagliardi were among those laughing the loudest.

## Prevention of frauds act intrigues M.L.A.s

VICTORIA — "An act for the prevention of frauds" given second reading in the Legislature intrigues both non-lawyer and lawyer members of the House.

The title fascinated them. But, as Attorney-General Robert Bonner explained Tuesday, it has to do with whether guarantees of indemnity must be in writing, or given orally, before they are

actionable in courts. The new rule: they must be in writing.

The Legislation is based on English common law in effect since the seventeenth century. It covers a point of law so complicated that student barristers have to spend a week on it.

The new act, it is hoped, will simplify the law on the point.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1958

# 'Stop blacklists or else,'

## Victoria warns teachers

### Closed shop in peril

VICTORIA — The government will end the "closed shop" for the B.C. Teachers' Federation if it does not stop "blacklisting" school boards on salary schedules.

Education Minister Les Peterson told the Legislature Tuesday he would take out the anti-blacklisting provision from the new public schools act.

But at the same time, he said, he would withhold proclamation of compulsory membership in the federation—a continuation of the previous practice—unless the teacher agreed to stop blacklisting.

Hundreds of telegrams have come to the government since Mr. Peterson last week announced that blacklisting would be an offence.

THE NEW MOVE does not appear to be a concession to the teachers. Rather, it seemed that Mr. Peterson felt he could not make the anti-blacklisting provisions work, and has chosen another method in an attempt to make the Teachers' Federation give up the practice.

The announcement came as the legislature was considering the new school legislation, first major overhaul of the B.C. Public Schools Act since 1952.

MR. PETERSON told the House:

"I have attempted to get a commitment from the Federation that it will not use the blacklist, but so far without success.

"I do not wish to withhold the provision of compulsory (Federation) membership, but," he said, he would make this provision subject to proclamation.

THIS MEANS that while the legislation will pass, it will not be proclaimed, thus become law, until the cabinet acts at a later date.

"I hope that these deplorable tactics by the teachers will not be used again," the minister said.

MR. PETERSON said the new legislation makes negotiations between boards and teachers on salary matters a "must," and where they cannot agree, the disputes must go to arbitration.

Mr. Peterson felt that his main duty is to the children of the province and to make sure that their education is continued.

HE PAID tribute to trustees who, he said, serve without remuneration and do the best job they can in the operation of schools.

No other sections in the draft legislation will be changed.

THEY INCLUDE the new principle that children over 15, who do not apply themselves in the schools can be ejected.

"This is a section to get rid of the bench-warmers," the minister said.

THE NEW legislation also pro-

(Continued on Next Page  
(See TEACHERS))

From Page One

### Teachers warned

vides a new financial formula for provincial government aid to education.

Under the complicated arrangement, Mr. Peterson has estimated another \$5,000,000 in provincial government help in the first year.

### Trustees 'welcome' new move

Lorne Aggett, president of the School Trustees Association, said his group welcomes "anything the government does to stop blacklisting."

Pointing out that the BCSTA has no quarrel with the Teachers' Federation, he added: "But we do have a quarrel with their blacklisting tactics."

"We're not applauding the fact that the government intends to hold up the 'closed shop' provisions. We're merely applauding the fact that the government is doing something to stop the blacklisting."

The education minister said: "Under existing legislation, every teacher must become a member of the B.C. Teachers' Federation in order to teach in our public schools."

"THIS PROVISION has been carried forward into the present bill. However, if the teachers' federation is going to utilize this compulsory means to deprive school districts of teachers by declaring certain districts in dispute — by a means commonly known as blacklisting — it becomes necessary for the government to discourage this procedure."

"I indicated my views on this matter in an earlier debate, and the present bill does contain a provision which would make it an offence to dissuade a teacher from accepting employment, or dissuade a board from offering employment to a teacher."

"OBJECTION has been taken to this provision on the grounds that it is an encroachment of the freedom of speech."

"It is an extremely difficult matter to prevent tactics commonly known as blacklisting by enforceable legislation, and I can agree that the wording of the provisions of the present section are so all-embracing as to be open to abuse. Consequently this provision will be deleted when the bill is considered in committee of the whole House."

Mr. Peterson then went on to explain that proclamation of that section dealing with compulsory membership would be delayed.

### 9-point for jobs

There's no single  
to problem, Leg

Province Victoria  
VICTORIA — The legisla-  
probed the problem of seasonal  
the House: "There is no single s

But, in a report presented by chairman Bert Price, Social Credit, Vancouver-Burrard, it had nine suggestions:

- That governments, industry and the public schedule construction and maintenance in the winter months.

- A program to maintain and increase export markets be pursued.

- That all levels of government encourage "favorable conditions" to attract secondary industries.

- The scheduling of vacations in slack months, and extra time given to employees if they take holidays in the winter months.

- An effort by industry to schedule its production over 12 months, instead of shorter periods.

- That greater prominence be given by merchants and salesmen of B.C. products "to overcome the preponderance of imported goods, particularly food products."

- That architects specify and require B.C. materials be used in construction.

- That the public be fully informed of the advantage accruing from the purchase of products made in B.C. and encouraged to purchase such products."

- A request that Canada extend fish hatchery resources "so that the fishing seasons may be lengthened."

The committee also suggested that the B.C. Research Council give further study to the problem of seasonal unemployment.

It reported that "seasonal unemployment, while mainly a fed-



# 9-point plan for jobs urged

There's no single solution to problem, Legislature told

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The legislative committee which probed the problem of seasonal unemployment has told the House: "There is no single solution to the problem."

But, in a report presented by chairman Bert Price, Social Credit, Vancouver-Burrard, it had nine suggestions:

- That governments, industry and the public schedule construction and maintenance in the winter months.
- A program to maintain and increase export markets be pursued.
- That all levels of government encourage "favorable conditions" to attract secondary industries.
- The scheduling of vacations in slack months, and extra time given to employees if they take holidays in the winter months.
- An effort by industry to schedule its production over 12 months, instead of shorter periods.
- That greater prominence be given by merchants and salesmen of B.C. products "to overcome the preponderance of imported goods, particularly food products."
- That architects specify and require B.C. materials be used in construction.
- That the public be fully informed of the advantage accruing from the purchase of products made in B.C. and encouraged to purchase such products."
- A request that Canada extend fish hatchery resources "so that the fishing seasons may be lengthened."

The committee also suggested that the B.C. Research Council give further study to the problem of seasonal unemployment.

It reported that "seasonal unemployment, while mainly a fed-

eral responsibility, is such that recommendations for its alleviation are varied and complex."

IN VANCOUVER, Reg Rose, Board of Trade manager, said that while there seemed to be nothing wrong with the suggestions, "they are perhaps not too penetrating."

He said that the suggestions concerning industry and commerce had been forwarded by the Board of Trade four years ago.

"If they were implemented, there's no doubt that they would help a great deal toward solving the problem," he added.

"What is never fully realized is that road contracts are never let until after the budget comes down. Plans then have to be drawn up and it is sometimes late summer before actual work can begin.

"WHAT THE suggestions do point up, however, is the great problem we are likely to experience for some time to come in a primary industry area, where the harvest of timber and fish depend on the seasons.

"The B.C. Products Bureau of the Board of Trade has been striving for some time to develop the use of local products and the development of secondary industry. This would broaden employment."

C. V. ROBINSON, manager of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, said his organization would be "very happy" to see the suggestions put into effect.

"Many of the suggestions were contained in our own brief to the committee a month ago," he added. "We're particularly happy about their suggestions on attracting secondary industries and urging architects to specify B.C. materials."

## GOVT. DENIES DISMISSALS

VICTORIA—The government claimed Wednesday that no employees have been dismissed as an economy measure.

A return filed in the House answered this question by Archie Gibbs, Liberal, Oak Bay:

"Since Aug. 1, 1957, how many full-time employees of the provincial government have been removed from the regular payroll as an economy measure? Of this total, how many have been asked to remain on call for return to work?"

PROVINCIAL Secretary Wesley Black couldn't have made the reply any briefer:

"1 and 2: Nil."

But questions asked by CCF leader Robert Strachan brought answers that the department of finance staff total is down from 782 at last July 31 to 732 at the end of the year, and the public works department totals, for the same dates, were down from 749 to 659.

THE DEPARTMENT of health

and welfare total went down from 2,237 to 2,129.

## Victoria slaps ban on teachers

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The government voted solidly 30 to 13 early today to withhold "closed shop" provisions for teachers unless they stopped blacklisting school boards.

(See earlier story, Page 39)

THE VOTE, at 12:05 a.m. came after hours of bitter debate.

It was the last big argument in the House before prorogation tentatively scheduled for today.

The division on the teacher argument was marked by the march out of the House by Socred Dan Campbell, Comox, a school teacher.

HE WAS THERE during the voice vote, but when the division bells rang, he left the chamber. It meant that his vote was not on the record either for or against the measure.

BUT MINUTES later Mr. Campbell got caught in a CCF manoeuvre, and was put on the record.

He was against the measure.

The CCF introduced a motion calling for reconsideration. Mr. Campbell, back in the House, technically had to stay.

He voted against the government.

It was not really a "bolt" — but it was a government backbencher voting against the government.

The turning point in an effort to "bring the teachers into line" appeared to come when it was revealed that they had advertised in Britain—where B.C. is seeking to get more teachers—that salaries were in dispute in B.C.

## MLAs hit technician campaign

VICTORIA (CP)—Members of the legislature are being "pressured by non-existent people" to pass a bill dealing with dental technicians, the House was told.

The bill would allow the technicians, in certain cases, to deal directly with the public instead of through a dentist.

The first claim that a flood of cards pressing for the bill were from non-existent people came from George Gregory (L—Victoria).

He said a number of the cards and letters were "inspired" and probably "paid for" by the technicians.

Premier Bennett followed Mr. Gregory with a warning to members of the House to weigh carefully any pressures being applied.

Gordon Dowding (CCF—Burraby) said he had "replied to a number of the cards and letters as a courtesy and many of my letters were returned marked 'no such address.'"

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1958

## DRUNK ACT SPLITS SHEEP FROM GOATS

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA — The bleary-eyed who end up in police court the morning after they tinkle too much, will be interested:

Amendments to the Liquor Control Act provide elimination of the minimum of \$20 for drunkenness and the institution of a \$50 maximum instead.

The explanation: The "regulars" were getting the minimum all the time, and the once-before-the-court people were getting it too.

So, officials explained, the new maximum idea is being put in

to give magistrates a little more leeway.

The amendments also firm up the provisions that the courts can order the seizure of cars or boats from which liquor is sold.

## Bennett answers 'don't know' to tax question

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett, as finance minister, has informed the House that he does not know what percentage of the sales tax total is paid in Vancouver and Victoria.

The premier answered, "not known," in reply to a question by Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby).

But the premier had a figure for Liberal George Gregory: 12.77 per cent of the tax was collected on Vancouver Island.

## CCFer urges more mental health staff

Province Victoria Bureau

VICTORIA—The Social Credit government has been accused of not hiring more than 200 persons for mental health institutions in the past year.

Randolph Harding, CCF, Kaslo-Slocan, said the government did not spend more than \$1,000,000 in wages which was budgeted for staff.

"You knew before you started they would not be hired," he told Provincial Secretary Black.

Mr. Black said efficient personnel could not be found for the hospitals.

"I am not interested in bodies. I am interested in skills," he said.

## \$56,157,500 in five minutes

Probably it is too much to expect any British Columbian to be surprised or indignant over the way the legislature voted \$56,157,500 of the taxpayers' money in less than five minutes on Tuesday.

Legislatures have an unfortunate habit of talking and bickering aimlessly for weeks and then rushing through the important legislation in the dying days of the House.

The \$56,157,500 voted out of provincial income for such capital expenditures as Trans-Canada highway construction, roads, bridges and other jobs was no exception to the let's-get-home routine of the legislators.

If there had been some attempt at an inquiry into these expenditures the public might feel better served by its representatives. Instead the millions rattled off like clockwork.

To make matters worse there was nothing more than a few minutes tame debate on Recreation Minister West-

wood's estimates. And not one question was asked about park development.

In recent months provincial and federal politicians have paid a great deal of lip service to parks. They know the urgent need for more of them in the urban areas and the demand for more big ones for holidayers, campers and tourists.

But not a whisper was raised when the minister responsible for parks was listing expenditures for them.

And not one word was said about the greatest and most beneficial park project in British Columbia—Garibaldi.

Here was something on which the government should have been thoroughly quizzed. It should have been asked to say clearly and explicitly what it intends to do about this great alpine playground sitting at Vancouver's back door and needing only access roads to bring it within a little over an hour's drive of half B.C.'s population.

Instead the members seemed more interested in the timetables for home.

By GORDON M  
Province Victoria

VICTORIA — Tom Uphill does, flung a desktop-load of the legislature Thursday.

And that marked the end of the 1958 session of the legislature, one of the longest in recent history.

It was a day over two months since Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross walked into the House with an aching back, caused by a slipped disc, and got the session under way.

THERE WAS MUCH in the traditional British system of government as the session ended.

His Honor merely nodded, and Provincial Secretary Wesley Black told the House that it was His Honor's wish that the session now be prorogued. He would call it again when he saw fit.

ACTUALLY, the decision is never his.

But it goes away back in history when British kings told the Commons what to do.

It was different when Mr. Uphill fired his papers this year.

THE LOAD didn't fan out, as it should have, but carried over to the government side in one solid chunk. And Robert Sommers, who was not the target, had to duck.

Mr. Uphill is the oldest member of the legislature. Now 83, he has been in the House since 1920 and both sides of the House love him.

ROYAL ASSENT was given to 73 bills.

The most important: Changes in the Forestry Act which provides that forest management areas will now be called tree farms, and that in future, the government's forestry adviser, Hon. Gordon Sloan, will hear applications and advise whether the licences should be granted or not.

It appears to remove one of the big weaknesses of the former system: The lands and forests minister decided who got the lucrative licences and, if there was any appeal, it had to be to the cabinet as a whole. And at the political level, the rest of the cabinet had to back the forestry minister.

EARLY in the session, Premier Bennett described it as the quietest he had ever known. And he had failed newspapers for the headlines.

But the headlines, among other things, had reported the fact that Mel Bryan, Social Credit member for North Vancouver, had walked across the floor of the House because Attorney-General Robert Bonner would not resign.

Earlier, Mr. Bryan had said he could not support Mr. Bonner any longer because of the attorney-general's handling of the Sommers case.

AFTER THAT, more than 200 angry Vancouver Island dairy farmers stormed the legislature and actually got past two outer attendants and banged on the great doorway leading into the House.

The new tree farm licences are not in "perpetuity," a word which seemed to bother a lot of people.

BUT EVEN in the new legislation, they are almost that way. They provide that the licences shall be for 21 years, but renewable for another 21 years. There is another key here: the renewal



VICTORIA — Tom Uphill, Fernie, as he always does, flung a desktop-load of papers across the floor of the legislature Thursday.

And that marked the end of the 1958 session of the legislature, one of the longest in recent history.

It was a day over two months since Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross walked into the House with an aching back, caused by a slipped disc, and got the session under way.

THERE WAS MUCH in the traditional British system of government as the session ended.

His Honor merely nodded, and Provincial Secretary Wesley Black told the House that it was His Honor's wish that the session now be prorogued. He would call it again when he saw fit.

ACTUALLY, the decision is never his.

But it goes away back in history when British kings told the Commons what to do.

It was different when Mr. Uphill fired his papers this year.

THE LOAD didn't fan out, as it should have, but carried over to the government side in one solid chunk. And Robert Sommers, who was not the target, had to duck.

Mr. Uphill is the oldest member of the legislature. Now 83, he has been in the House since 1920 and both sides of the House love him.

ROYAL ASSENT was given to 73 bills.

The most important: Changes in the Forestry Act which provides that forest management areas will now be called tree farms, and that in future, the government's forestry adviser, Hon. Gordon Sloan, will hear applications and advise whether the licences should be granted or not.

It appears to remove one of the big weaknesses of the former system: The lands and forests minister decided who got the lucrative licences and, if there was any appeal, it had to be to the cabinet as a whole. And at the political level, the rest of the cabinet had to back the forestry minister.

EARLY in the session, Premier Bennett described it as the quietest he had ever known. And he had flailed newspapers for the headlines.

But the headlines, among other things, had reported the fact that Mel Brya, Social Credit member for North Vancouver, had walked across the floor of the House because Attorney-General Robert Bonner would not resign.

Earlier, Mr. Bryan had said he could not support Mr. Bonner any longer because of the attorney-general's handling of the Sommers case.

AFTER THAT, more than 200 angry Vancouver Island dairy farmers stormed the legislature and actually got past two outer attendants and banged on the great doorway leading into the House.

The new tree farm licences are not in "perpetuity," a word which seemed to bother a lot of people.

BUT EVEN in the new legislation, they are almost that way. They provide that the licences shall be for 21 years, but renewable for another 21 years. There is another key here: the renewal

can be at the level of forestry economy then in effect.

New mining legislation also makes leases on mining land on a 21-year basis, again, renewable for another 21.

THE OPPOSITION had a big year.

It queried, but didn't seem to get very satisfactory answers, rumors that the civil service had been cut down.

It queried empty beds at Woodland's School for Retarded Children, and vacant beds at the Essondale hospital for the mentally ill.

BUT IT GOT this answer: the beds were there because the Social Credit government had built them, and they were not filled because competent staff could not be obtained.

Premier Bennett, on three occasions, made speeches which seemed to be forerunners on what he is going to say next week.

One of the bills in this session dealt with dental technicians. At first it looked as if they would be able to deal directly with the public.

But there are great big gimmicks:

FIRST, it sets up a professional status for the technicians and lets them decide who are qualified, and what services can be given to the public, directly and not through a dentist.

But, above that again, is a great big government provision which keeps control. The legislative machinery to allow dental technicians to deal with the public is there, but the cabinet will decide later when it will take effect.

THE FINAL BILL — assented to by the lieutenant-governor was on money. He agreed the government could vote money to carry on its business in the next year.

It was a formality. It meant that the shouting was all over. That the decisions were final.

IN THE FINAL days the government moved hard and fast against school teachers, who have an association and the right to require that every teacher belong to it.

Said the government: If the teachers did not stop blacklisting school districts — telling their members not to apply for jobs where it felt salaries weren't sufficient — then it would remove the "closed shop" arrangements.

HUNDREDS of telegrams reached the government.

But it was adamant: teachers can't shun certain school districts.

In return, the teachers win enforced conciliation and arbitration in any school district.

Public Schools Act changes also set a new complicated structure for government assistance to school boards.

The government has estimated that it will increase assistance by nearly \$5,000,000 in the first fiscal year to a total assistance bill of more than \$40,000,000.

The legislature also gave power to naturopathic physicians to govern their own profession. They thus achieved similar status to physicians, chiropractors and chiropractors.

## Uphill fires papers

# HOUSE ENDS LONG SESSION

## 'Physician, heal thyself'

The report of the legislative committee set up to study British Columbia's seasonal unemployment problem is not a very realistic document—but then, in the political circumstances, it could hardly have been expected to be one.

There are a few solid minor suggestions—for instance, that architects specify the use of B.C. materials and that employees be encouraged to take their vacations in slack seasons by giving them extra time off.

In general, however, the report is a statement of the obvious: export trade should be promoted; secondary industry should be encouraged; industry, the public and governments should schedule construction and maintenance in the winter months.

This last proposition is, in fact, the perfectly obvious heart of any approach to seasonal unemployment.

But what the committee does not say—and obviously can not be expected to say—is that the provincial government itself is one of the worst offenders in the scheduling of construction and maintenance.

The government starts out with a bang in the early stages of the budgetary year, happily doling out money. That is just at the time when employment in general is picking up after the genuine winter slump in the primary industries, such as logging and fishing, which are dependent on the weather.

By the last quarter of the fiscal year it finds it has gone through its budgetary allotments and the till is almost empty. It must retrench. And this happens in January, February and March, the worst months for industrial employment in a primary-producing province.

One is tempted to say to the provincial government: "Physician, heal thyself."

**M A R**

**1958**



SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1958

## t Probe continues

Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — Attorney-  
General said Thursday  
proceedings are continuing  
against mining of the  
railway line.  
The Chamber of Com-  
merce asked the govern-  
ment to "immediately  
deal with the ter-  
ritory."

## PHIL ASLEEP

VICTORIA — Highways  
Minister P. A. Gagliardi is  
too bored to sleep Thursday  
involved debate in  
legislature on govern-  
mental estimates.  
Gagliardi's who stayed  
awake struggled to  
keep interest.

## ETT HAS PROSPECT

VICTORIA — Premier Ben-  
bowen said Thursday he would  
be given a conso-  
lation prize by the  
CCF ever evicts  
office.  
He will let him  
be president of  
consolation prize  
believe him of his  
ties," said Tony  
CCF Mackenzie  
estimates debate.  
date that," said  
"I really do."

## Authorized ing by Rapped

Government  
public funds with-  
was criticized in  
Thursday by  
der Robert Stra-

on told the pre-  
o right to over-  
ous departments  
city.  
ty should come  
t order-in-coun-  
nnett protested.  
giving a "blank  
net ministers.  
t be any more  
cheque you are  
ow," said Mr.  
we want is  
ord of what is

## 'Y' Shies Away From Delinquents

'One Bad Apple Can Spoil Rest,'  
Legislature Committee Told

By SIMMA HOLT  
Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The YMCA does not like to take in  
boys who have been in trouble "because one bad apple  
can spoil the rest," the legislative committee on juvenile  
delinquency was told here Friday.

T. V. Berry, president of  
the Young Men's Christian  
Association of Greater Van-  
couver, said this in discussion  
following submission of a  
three-page brief.

This was the third day of  
hearings before Chairman  
John Tisdalle and the special  
legislative welfare committee.

### VARIETY OF REASONS

Mr. Berry told the commit-  
tee there are a "variety of  
reasons" why some boys can-  
not take advantage of recrea-  
tional services of the YMCA.

He added that chances for  
these boys becoming deli-  
quent were very high.

"To bring large numbers of  
these boys into our member-  
ship might tend to create an  
atmosphere in the YMCA  
which might discourage others  
from attending," he said.

"If the YMCA were to em-  
bark upon such a program of  
service to these youths, it  
would possibly have to be with  
additional specialized leader-  
ship with much of the pro-  
gram being held outside the  
YMCA building.

He said that the most seri-  
ous problem in YMCA serv-  
ices to children and youth is  
trained leadership.

The Elizabeth Fry Society,  
of B.C., sister organization of  
the John Howard Society,  
offered seven methods for pre-  
vention of delinquency and  
three ways of improving after-  
prison care for young offend-  
ers.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

For prevention they sug-  
gested group studies for par-  
ents, emphasizing adolescent  
problems; increased personal  
contact between parents,  
teachers and parents in elem-  
entary schools; more teachers  
trained as school counsellors  
in order to prevent overload-  
ing of present counselling  
staff.

They also asked greater co-  
operation between welfare  
workers and school counsel-  
lors; special training for police  
youth detail so that preventive  
rather than punitive methods  
can be used; help in raising  
the standard of living in har-  
dicapped families; co-ordina-  
tion of community resources  
for assistance of young people.

## Clarification in Order

A most unsatisfactory piece of legisla-  
tion was introduced in the Legislature last  
week by Health Minister Martin. It's the  
new "Dental Technicians Act", which ap-  
parently was hastily whipped together  
by somebody in authority to supplant or  
short-circuit a private member's bill.

The purpose of the private member's  
bill was to permit dental technicians to  
deal directly with the public in the mak-  
ing of false teeth and dental plates. At  
present they must work through and for  
dentists. The controversy between the  
technicians, who claim they can serve the  
public cheaper, and the dentists, who claim  
to fear for the public's health, is well  
enough known. Whatever is thought of the  
merits of it, it's a necessity to have any  
legislation on the subject clearly drawn.  
The Legislature has a right and a duty to  
know where it's going.

Mr. Martin's bill, of which no copies  
were available for study late last week  
(even some cabinet ministers apparently  
didn't know what was in it after it was  
introduced) is dangerously obscure in sev-  
eral respects. It's hard to see how either  
side in the controversy can be satisfied  
with it.

What's clear is that the bill provides for  
a body of registered dental technicians  
who will presumably be permitted to

"make, produce, reproduce, construct, fur-  
nish, supply, alter or repair" any denture.  
This covers a lot of territory. It would  
seem the dentists have lost.

Yet the bill has considerable mysteries.  
It provides that a board of examiners  
shall license and register the technicians  
and prescribe their education, experience  
and technical qualifications. Nowhere  
does it say what this education or these  
qualifications shall be; nor what the quali-  
fications of the board members shall be.

These points apparently are to be left  
to this and future governments to order,  
and alter, at will.

So far as the public knows, the quali-  
fications could be of the lowest, none at all,  
or they might be so high as to require a  
"dental technician" in future to have a  
degree from a dental college.

It's pertinent to ask at this point  
whether under this act there'll ever be a  
dental faculty at the University of B.C.  
This is in big demand at the moment but  
if dentists, or others, can make dentures  
without the accolade of a college educa-  
tion, it may not be needed.

This is just a suggestion for the Legis-  
lature when it comes soberly to consider a  
bill which has all the earmarks of being  
intended to head off a pro-technicians  
revolt in an already mutinous Social Credit  
caucus.

Sat., March 1, 1958

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# MLAs Anxious to Get Into Election

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Your MLAs are now getting restless to get out on the hustings and support their political brethren in the March 31 battle for House of Commons seats.

They don't want to do too much electioneering, being tired by the session.

But what politician can resist the temptation get up on a platform and beg the public for favors on election day and tell the public what a wonderful party it is to which he belongs?

Of course no good politician can resist such a temptation for too long, and your MLAs are all pretty good politicians.

\*\*\*

CCF Mr. Gargrave of Mackenzie had a luncheon party in the legislative restaurant Friday; a group of bright-looking young people obviously enjoying the novelty of being surrounded by MLAs.

Mr. Gargrave spied Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin passing by, went up and said to him: "Mr. Minister, I'd like to have you meet this group."

Whereupon Mr. Gargrave introduced Social Credit Mr. Martin to the CCF Club of Victoria College.

"Oh . . . well . . .," said Mr. Martin, and then passed out one of those Martin pleasantries, with political overtones, that set everyone laughing.

Thus encouraged, one young man grew bold enough to tell Mr. Martin that Social Credit recently lost four seats in a Victoria College election, which set Mr. Gargrave to chuckling.

Mr. Martin chuckled, too, and seemed quite unimpressed.

\*\*\*

There was some brief discussion in the legislature about more judges for B.C. courts.

There are four lawyers in the legislature — Attorney-General Bonner, Education Minister Peterson, CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby and Liberal Mr. Gregory of Victoria.

Mr. Gargrave hopes to be a lawyer one of these days.

It's not unusual for a lawyer MLA to be called out of the legislature and made a justice.

Perhaps Mr. Gregory stands the best chance, especially if a Liberal government should be elected March 31.

But until there's a Sacred or CCF government in Ottawa Messrs. Bonner, Peterson and Dowding and perhaps Mr. Gargrave, quite likely won't be called to the B.C. bench.

For it's the Ottawa government that make the appointments and pays the salaries.

## House Orders Probe Into Mine Closure

B.C. Legislature has unanimously asked its labor committee to probe the closure of Britannia mine.

Speakers from both sides of the House scored the "abrupt" and "discourteous" manner in which the mine, 30 miles north of Vancouver, was ordered closed by its owners.

More criticism came from outside the House.

CCF national leader M. J. Coldwell, speaking in Vancouver, said the closure "showed how much consideration Canadians get from Yankee promoters."

He added: "God forbid we should ever be under more of a dictatorship than we are today when a group in Salt Lake City can tell a group of Canadians Britannia will close tomorrow."

Mine Mill Union officials launched a double-barrelled attack.

Jack Balderson, president of the Britannia Local, instructed a Vancouver lawyer to apply for a Supreme Court injunction to stop the closure. And in Winnipeg union vice-president Harvey Murphy wired Prime Minister John Diefenbaker asking the federal government to operate the mine.

3 So  
Wo

Ref  
Mo

VICT

walked ou

confidence

Cyril Sh

Fred Sharp

and Irvine

stained fro

over the a

handling of

Their join

a heated 2

the motion

position ove

ing on char

lands and

E. Sommers

BONNER, C

Both Mr.

government

motion.

The gove

vote 29-14.

Highlights

Premier B

the cabinet

criminal pro

charges we

senior civil

against it.

Opposition

premier to

election on

ALL SOMM

A demand

quiry into a

ness Mr. S

while he wa

Premier

Sloan royal

pointed to

in Novembe

ments leadi

charges.

Attorney

accused the

tempting "p

packing."

Mines Minis

nan that "L

the attack.

The three

who refuse

for Mr. Bon

said outside

they did no

way the cas

But, they

believe Mr.



TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1958

## Doctors Threaten Welfare Boycott Unless Fees Raised

By Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — B.C. doctors have threatened to withhold their medical services from social welfare recipients unless the government pays more for the services.  
Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin announced this in the legislature late

Monday night. The house appointed a special committee to probe the threat.

B.C. pays \$22.50 per year for medical costs of each social welfare recipient.

The Canadian Medical Association, B.C. Division, is asking for an increase of about \$6.

The CMA says it will terminate its services as of March 31, unless the government meets its demands.

The increase would boost the government's cost from \$1,500,000 to \$2,100,000 per year.

## 3 Sacred MLAs Walk Out of House

### Refuse to Vote on Non-Confidence Motion Condemning Bonner, Gov't

By ALEX YOUNG  
Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — Three Social Credit backbenchers walked out of the Legislature Monday to dodge a non-confidence vote on Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

Cyril Shelford (Omineca), Fred Sharp (Vancouver-East) and Irvine Corbett (Yale) abstained from the showdown over the attorney-general's handling of the Sommers case.

Their joint walkout climaxed a heated 2½-hour debate on the motion made by the Opposition over the delay in acting on charges against former lands and forests minister R. E. Sommers.

#### BONNER, GOV'T, CITED

Both Mr. Bonner and the government were cited in the motion.

The government won the vote 29-14.

#### Highlights of the debate:

Premier Bennett said he and the cabinet wanted to take criminal proceedings when the charges were first made but senior civil servants advised against it.

Opposition MLAs dared the premier to hold a provincial election on the issue.

#### ALL SOMMERS' BUSINESS

A demand was made for inquiry into all government business Mr. Sommers conducted while he was in the cabinet.

Premier Bennett said the Sloan royal commission appointed to the Sommers case in November turned up documents leading to the criminal charges.

Attorney-General Bonner accused the opposition of attempting "psychological jury-packing" and hinted with Mines Minister Kenneth Kierman that "Liberals" engineered the attack.

The three government MLAs who refused to either vote for Mr. Bonner or against him said outside the House later they did not agree with the way the case has been handled. But they said, they didn't believe Mr. Bonner should be

"condemned" until he had a chance to properly defend himself.

This could not be done until the current bribery conspiracy charges involving Mr. Sommers are decided, they said.

Mr. Shelford said for this reason he didn't feel he could take part in the voting Monday. Both Mr. Sharp and Mr. Corbett agreed with this point of view.

The government already has lost one MLA to the opposition because of its handling of the case.

Mel Bryan, now independent MLA for North Vancouver, crossed the floor from government benches on Feb. 3.

#### ASKED BONNER'S ADVICE

At several points during Monday's fast-moving debate, faint titters of laughter were audible from public galleries when the premier and Mr. Bonner defended themselves.

Premier Bennett said when the Sturdy charges were made he said he asked the attorney-general for advice on whether immediate criminal action should be started.

"And the advice he got from senior officials was not to start it at that time because it was felt the civil (Sommers slander) case would clear it up," the Premier continued.

"And I'm not hiding behind the legal department but we did get and accept that advice. When the civil case ceased to exist I asked the attorney-general again. At that time it was the acting attorney-general, the minister of education (Les Peterson).

"I asked the acting attorney-general about the possibility of taking action because the government was very anxious that this matter be cleared up."

#### BONNER SAYS

### Beer Parlor Owners Lack Imagination

VICTORIA (CP)—Beer parlor operators in B.C. seem to lack imagination, Attorney-General Robert Bonner said Monday night.

Mr. Bonner told the legislature mugs, pitchers or steins could be used.

"Beer drinkers prefer a little novelty," he said.

Earlier Cedric Cox (CCF, Burnaby) using cold tea, demonstrated that the new 20-cent glass would not hold double an old 10-cent glass.

Mr. Bonner said the Liquor control board required the small glass be retained. Mr. Cox claimed one pub waiter had told him the small glass was no longer available.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Bonner Given 10-Hour Tussle

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — It took Attorney-General Robert Bonner nearly 10 hours to get his estimates through the House, one of the longest, toughest slugs any cabinet minister has had to face in years.

He had to take it from all sides.

CCFers said not enough is being done for prisoners in B.C. jails; Socred Mr. Price of Vancouver-Burrard thinks prisoners in our jails are molly-coddled.

Too much of the taxpayers' money, he stated, is spent on them; wasted, in Mr. Price's view.

In this column's view, Mr. Price talks a fair amount of nonsense in this regard.

Mr. Price never says how he'd handle prisoners.

\*\*\*

Mr. Bonner answered questions, but as briefly as possible.

Any smart cabinet minister does that.

He does a minimum of talking and explaining while getting his estimates through.

The Opposition, of course, howls that the Government does everything its own way — stubborn, any Government is, in the political opinion of any Opposition.

The Government, complains the Opposition does everything its own way, doesn't want advice from the Opposition and tell the Opposition as little as possible about what's going on. Oppositionists always talk this way.

They ignore the fact that the Opposition is not the Government, that if the people wanted the Opposition as the Government they would have said so in the polling booths.

Because all this is so, no Government can permit an Opposition to dictate Government policies.

If a Government did that it would be breaking faith with a majority of the people.

\*\*\*

But, as to the attorney-general's estimates, Opposition Leader Strachan, for instance, wanted to know something about jails.

Mr. Bonner told him. But Mr. Strachan said what Mr. Bonner says about our jails isn't what prisoners say.

"My honorable friend has been getting poor information throughout this session — you're just being a little bit confused," said the AG to Mr. Strachan.

"No, you're the one who's confused," said Mr. Strachan to the AG.

It's no wonder the poor public's often confused, when two top MLAs confuse each other this way in the Legislature, each appearing confused in his own way.

The premier got into the debate to say Mr. Strachan talks what the premier called "propaganda."

"Huh," said Mr. Strachan, "when the premier gets on a hot spot everything to him is CCF propaganda or Liberal conspiracy."

CCF Mr. Turner of Vancouver East had his say on jails, and Mr. Bonner interrupted with: "May I make an observation?"

"No," said Mr. Turner, in a minute he'd be through and the AG could then get out on his own.

CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby and Highways Minister Gagliardi got into a bit of an uproar.

Mr. Gagliardi did some shouting at Mr. Dowding to which Mr. Dowding objected, saying he needed a gavel to keep Mr. Gagliardi in order.

But Mr. Gagliardi said what Mr. Dowding would really like would be a club to try and beat Mr. Gagliardi on the head.

Chairman Alex Matthew of Vancouver Centre tried to shush Messrs. Dowding and Gagliardi.

But Mr. Dowding had the last word: "I call on you, Mr. Chairman, for protection from the minister of highways."

CCF Mr. Nimsick of Cranbrook tried getting some information from the attorney-general.

He got not very far, the AG only telling, what he wanted to tell.

In due course Mr. Nimsick subsided with: "The honorable attorney-general tries to get out of it all the time."

CCF Mr. Cox of Burnaby expressed some disagreement with Mr. Bonner and his policies.

"The honorable, the member for Burnaby has taken an improper conclusion," said the attorney-general, in his clipped and brisk lawyer style.

And so goes the passage of estimates — voting of millions and millions of dollars for the public service, a long and tedious process, perhaps, but the very essence of democracy.

# Price Says Prison Setup 'Wasteful'

MLA Says Too Much Spent on Convicts Who 'Aren't Worth It'

By ALEX YOUNG

Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Too much money is being "wasted" on prisoners in British Columbia jails, a Social Credit MLA declared in the legislature Tuesday.

"These prisoners are not worth it," said Bert Price (SC — Vancouver Burrard).

He was discussing votes for spending \$3,500,000 on jails, including Oakalla and the Haney correctional institution.

"It's not fair that our prisoners should eat lettuce from California while our old age pensioners go hungry," he said.

## PUT THEM TO WORK

"This is one of the greatest wastes of money in the province. If we put these men to work we could cut the cost by about \$1,000,000."

He said there could "be a riot at Oakalla any day because warden Hugh Christie is limited in his powers."

"The 'do-gooders' were 'all very well,' he said, but 'hard work is needed to reduce the population of our jails.'"

## 'BOOKS AND RADIOS'

"They get books, steam heat, mattresses and radios and the boys outside are lucky to get a playground," Mr. Price said.

Taunts of "get them breaking stone," and "let's have the galley ships back and the chain gangs" were hurled by opposition members at Mr. Price.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, whose job normally would be to counter such criticism, said nothing while CCF members supported rehabilitation of prisoners.

"The government should get its members in line in their social thinking," said Gordon Dowding (CCF — Burnaby).

# Dental Bill Goes to Committee

VICTORIA — A special legislative committee will study a bill that would enable dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

The legislature unanimously appointed the committee Tuesday, on recommendation of health minister Eric Martin.

Mr. Martin said later the move had been requested by both Social Credit and CCF groups in the legislature, and by dentists, who oppose the bill.

The committee is empowered to study the bill, invite public representations on it and make recommendations to the house.

If and when the bill becomes law, the cabinet is given power to set up a special board to establish standards to be met by technicians if they are going to repair or sell dentures.

# MAGISTRATES WON'T TRAVEL

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Introduction of a system of travelling magistrates in British Columbia was ruled out Tuesday by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

He said they would never be in one place long enough to do a proper job.

Mr. Bonner said lawyers advocated appointing lawyers to magistrate jobs, but were reluctant to take the jobs.

TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH

# Short-Sight Public Ab

Premier Bennett persists in myth that the Pacific Great way is somehow showing a "profit."

Instead of giving its own public, a realistic picture of the PGE expansion adventure, the premier again offers the leg sketchiest of financial accounts.

Even experts can't be sure going on from the lean figures. But along with other obta about PGE finances, they offer to "profit" theories or any profit for years to come —

Mr. Bennett only builds u for disappointment and di with his casual talk about "pr ating surpluses" and "plou money into the PGE.

For the first time, account includes payment of interest expansion debt — \$566,188,000 borrowed to build the N ver-Squamish link.

This cost raised PGE oper within \$16,500 of its total even this \$16,500 had to be u tial repayment on more tha which the PGE owes the pro ury for advances made since

So there's no profit in t And they cover only the "operating" section of the North Vancouver and Princ PGE auditors explain, these properly under railway acco tice do not take into account construction under way nor George.

But if Mr. Bennett is going ferences about "profits," all must be considered.

The PGE has so far borro 000 for northern constructi nett seeks authority from t to borrow an additional \$40,0



Wed., Mar. 5, 1958

#### PETERSON PLAN:

## Schools Return To Fundamentals

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—A return to "the fundamentals" in education is favored by British Columbia Education Minister Les Peterson.

He said the Legislature Tuesday during discussion of his department's estimates that emphasis on technical and vocational education in elementary and secondary schools is not progressive.

"We should concentrate on fundamentals: basic sciences and those subjects that enable students to communicate and understand," he said.

"We should provide students with the ability to think and reason for themselves," Mr. Peterson added.

He said "teaching a lot of technical data and skills" to students isn't desirable because by the time such students graduate the things they have learned may be obsolete.

#### TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH

## Short-Sighted to Deceive Public About PGE 'Profits'

Premier Bennett persists in pushing the myth that the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is somehow showing a "surplus" or a "profit."

Instead of giving its owners, the B.C. public, a realistic picture of how the great PGE expansion adventure is going, the premier again offers the legislature only the sketchiest of financial accounting.

Even experts can't be sure of what's going on from the lean figures he provides. But along with other obtainable facts about PGE finances, they offer no support to "profit" theories or any assurance of profit for years to come — if ever.

Mr. Bennett only builds up the public for disappointment and disillusionment with his casual talk about "profits," "operating surpluses" and "ploughing back" money into the PGE.

For the first time, accounting for 1957 includes payment of interest on southern expansion debt — \$566,188 on \$14,500,000 borrowed to build the North Vancouver-Squamish link.

This cost raised PGE operating costs to within \$16,500 of its total income. And even this \$16,500 had to be used as a partial repayment on more than \$6,000,000 which the PGE owes the provincial treasury for advances made since 1953.

So there's no profit in these figures. And they cover only the break-even "operating" section of the PGE between North Vancouver and Prince George. As PGE auditors explain, these figures quite properly under railway accounting practice do not take into account major PGE construction under way north of Prince George.

But if Mr. Bennett is going to make inferences about "profits," all PGE finances must be considered.

The PGE has so far borrowed \$60,000,000 for northern construction. Mr. Bennett seeks authority from the legislature to borrow an additional \$40,000,000. When

this section joins the operating area, the PGE will have an annual bill for interest of some \$5,000,000.

Since present revenues of more than \$8,000,000 can just handle interest charges of \$500,000, it's going to take a lot more revenue to handle 10 times as much interest.

Even PGE forecasts of \$20,000,000 revenue by 1960, if accurate, wouldn't necessarily mean a profit. Running trains has a way of eating up 80 to 90 per cent of any railway's revenue. At best there might be only \$4,000,000 to cover interest of more than \$5,000,000 a year.

Even a revenue figure of \$33,000,000 as predicted by the PGE for 1965 might not meet interest charges. And interest must be covered fully before the PGE can legitimately claim a profit.

Any well-run private business would also put aside reasonable sinking funds to retire its debt. The PGE would require \$5,000,000 or so a year to redeem its \$120,000,000 in bonds then outstanding.

Once this was provided it might fairly start paying dividends to its sole shareholder, the provincial treasury. Then indeed the PGE would be showing a proud profit.

Premier Bennett, however, builds public expectation of something like this right now when he talks about "operating surpluses." Mr. Bennett should instead tell the public that backed his PGE expansion program just how things are going.

The public accepted the probability of PGE losses as worthwhile if it opened up the interior. There's no indication that public sentiment has changed.

But if Mr. Bennett misleads the public now with mythical "profits," and then has to turn around and subsidize the railway against losses, disillusionment could be bitter.

Falsification now could seriously hurt the PGE in the future.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Bonner Given 10-Hour Tussle

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — It took Attorney-General Robert Bonner nearly 10 hours to get his estimates through the House, one of the longest, toughest slugs any cabinet minister has had to face in years.

He had to take it from all sides.

CCFers said not enough is being done for prisoners in B.C. jails; Socred Mr. Price of Vancouver-Burrard thinks prisoners in our jails are molly-coddled.

Too much of the taxpayers' money, he stated, is spent on them; wasted, in Mr. Price's view.

In this column's view, Mr. Price talks a fair amount of nonsense in this regard.

Mr. Price never says how he'd handle prisoners.

\*\*\*

Mr. Bonner answered questions, but as briefly as possible.

Any smart cabinet minister does that.

He does a minimum of talking and explaining while getting his estimates through.

The Opposition, of course, howls that the Government does everything its own way — stubborn, any Government is, in the political opinion of any Opposition.

The Government, complains the Opposition does everything its own way, doesn't want advice from the Opposition and tell the Opposition as little as possible about what's going on. Oppositionists always talk this way.

They ignore the fact that the Opposition is not the Government, that if the people wanted the Opposition as the Government they would have said so in the polling booths.

Because all this is so, no Government can permit an Opposition to dictate Government policies.

If a Government did that it would be breaking faith with a majority of the people.

\*\*\*

But, as to the attorney-general's estimates, Opposition Leader Strachan, for instance, wanted to know something about jails.

Mr. Bonner told him. But Mr. Strachan said what Mr. Bonner says about our jails isn't what prisoners say.

"My honorable friend has been getting poor information throughout this session — you're just being a little bit confused," said the AG to Mr. Strachan.

"No, you're the one who's confused," said Mr. Strachan to the AG.

It's no wonder the poor public's often confused, when two top MLAs confuse each other this way in the Legislature, each appearing confused in his own way.

The premier got into the debate to say Mr. Strachan talks what the premier called "propaganda."

"Huh," said Mr. Strachan, "when the premier gets on a hot spot everything to him is CCF propaganda or Liberal conspiracy."

CCF Mr. Turner of Vancouver East had his say on jails, and Mr. Bonner interrupted with: "May I make an observation?"

"No," said Mr. Turner, in a minute he'd be through and the AG could then get out on his own.

CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby and Highways Minister Gagliardi got into a bit of an uproar.

Mr. Gagliardi did some shouting at Mr. Dowding to which Mr. Dowding objected, saying he needed a gavel to keep Mr. Gagliardi in order.

But Mr. Gagliardi said what Mr. Dowding would really like would be a club to try and beat Mr. Gagliardi on the head.

Chairman Alex Matthew of Vancouver Centre tried to shush Messrs. Dowding and Gagliardi.

But Mr. Dowding had the last word: "I call on you, Mr. Chairman, for protection from the minister of highways."

CCF Mr. Nimsick of Cranbrook tried getting some information from the attorney-general.

He got not very far, the AG only telling what he wanted to tell.

In due course Mr. Nimsick subsided with: "The honorable attorney-general tries to get out of it all the time."

CCF Mr. Cox of Burnaby expressed some disagreement with Mr. Bonner and his policies.

"The honorable, the member for Burnaby has taken an improper conclusion," said the attorney-general, in his clipped and brisk lawyer style.

And so goes the passage of estimates — voting of millions and millions of dollars for the public service, a long and tedious process, perhaps, but the very essence of democracy.

# Price Says Prison Setup 'Wasteful'

MLA Says Too Much Spent on Convicts Who 'Aren't Worth It'

By ALEX YOUNG

Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Too much money is being "wasted" on prisoners in British Columbia jails, a Social Credit MLA declared in the legislature Tuesday.

"These prisoners are not worth it," said Bert Price (SC — Vancouver Burrard).

He was discussing votes for spending \$3,500,000 on jails, including Oakalla and the Haney correctional institution.

"It's not fair that our prisoners should eat lettuce from California while our old age pensioners go hungry," he said.

**'PUT THEM TO WORK'**

"This is one of the greatest wastes of money in the province. If we put these men to work we could cut the cost by about \$1,000,000."

He said there could "be a riot at Oakalla any day because warden Hugh Christie is limited in his powers."

"The 'do-gooders' were 'all very well,' he said, but "hard work is needed to reduce the population of our jails."

**'BOOKS AND RADIOS'**

"They get books, steam heat, mattresses and radios and the boys outside are lucky to get a playground," Mr. Price said.

Taunts of "get them breaking stone," and "let's have the galley ships back and the chain gangs" were hurled by opposition members at Mr. Price.

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, whose job normally would be to counter such criticism, said nothing while CCF members supported rehabilitation of prisoners.

"The government should get its members in line in their social thinking," said Gordon Dowding (CCF — Burnaby).

# Dental Bill Goes to Committee

VICTORIA — A special legislative committee will study a bill that would enable dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

The legislature unanimously appointed the committee Tuesday, on recommendation of health minister Eric Martin.

Mr. Martin said later the move had been requested by both Social Credit and CCF groups in the legislature, and by dentists, who oppose the bill.

The committee is empowered to study the bill, invite public representations on it and make recommendations to the house.

If and when the bill becomes law, the cabinet is given power to set up a special board to establish standards to be met by technicians if they are going to repair or sell dentures.

# MAGISTRATES WON'T TRAVEL

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Introduction of a system of travelling magistrates in British Columbia was ruled out Tuesday by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

He said they would never be in one place long enough to do a proper job.

Mr. Bonner said lawyers advocated appointing lawyers to magistrate jobs, but were reluctant to take the jobs.

TELL THE

Sho  
Pub

Premier B  
myth that th  
way is someh  
"profit."

Instead of  
public, a real  
PGE expands  
premier agal  
the sketches

Even expe  
going on from  
But along v  
about PGE fi  
to "profit" t  
profit for ye

Mr. Benne  
for disappoi  
with his casu  
ating surplus  
money into t

For the fi  
includes pay  
expansion de  
000 borrowed  
ver-Squamish

This cost r  
within \$16.5  
even this \$16  
tial repayme  
which the PG  
ury for adva

So there's  
And they c  
"operating"  
North Vanc  
PGE auditor  
properly und  
tice do not t  
construction

George.

But if Mr.  
ferences abou  
must be cons

The PGE l  
000 for nort  
nett seeks a  
to borrow an



Wed., Mar. 5, 1958

#### PETERSON PLAN:

## Schools Return To Fundamentals

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—A return to "the fundamentals" in education is favored by British Columbia Education Minister Les Peterson.

He told the Legislature Tuesday during discussion of his department's estimates that emphasis on technical and vocational education in elementary and secondary schools is not progressive.

"We should concentrate on fundamentals, basic sciences and those subjects that enable students to communicate and understand," he said.

"We should provide students with the ability to think and reason for themselves," Mr. Peterson added.

He said "teaching a lot of technical data and skills" to students isn't desirable because by the time such students graduate the things they have learned may be obsolete.

#### TELL THE WHOLE TRUTH

## Short-Sighted to Deceive Public About PGE 'Profits'

Premier Bennett persists in pushing the myth that the Pacific Great Eastern Railway is somehow showing a "surplus" or a "profit."

Instead of giving its owners, the B.C. public, a realistic picture of how the great PGE expansion adventure is going, the premier again offers the legislature only the sketchiest of financial accounting.

Even experts can't be sure of what's going on from the lean figures he provides. But along with other obtainable facts about PGE finances, they offer no support to "profit" theories or any assurance of profit for years to come — if ever.

Mr. Bennett only builds up the public for disappointment and disillusionment with his casual talk about "profits," "operating surpluses" and "ploughing back" money into the PGE.

For the first time, accounting for 1957 includes payment of interest on southern expansion debt — \$566,188 on \$14,500,000 borrowed to build the North Vancouver-Squamish link.

This cost raised PGE operating costs to within \$16,500 of its total income. And even this \$16,500 had to be used as a partial repayment on more than \$6,000,000 which the PGE owes the provincial treasury for advances made since 1953.

So there's no profit in these figures. And they cover only the break-even "operating" section of the PGE between North Vancouver and Prince George. As PGE auditors explain, these figures quite properly under railway accounting practice do not take into account major PGE construction under way north of Prince George.

But if Mr. Bennett is going to make inferences about "profits," all PGE finances must be considered.

The PGE has so far borrowed \$60,000,000 for northern construction. Mr. Bennett seeks authority from the legislature to borrow an additional \$40,000,000. When

this section joins the operating area, the PGE will have an annual bill for interest of some \$5,000,000.

Since present revenues of more than \$8,000,000 can just handle interest charges of \$500,000, it's going to take a lot more revenue to handle 10 times as much interest.

Even PGE forecasts of \$20,000,000 revenue by 1960, if accurate, wouldn't necessarily mean a profit. Running trains has a way of eating up 80 to 90 per cent of any railway's revenue. At best there might be only \$4,000,000 to cover interest of more than \$5,000,000 a year.

Even a revenue figure of \$33,000,000 as predicted by the PGE for 1965 might not meet interest charges. And interest must be covered fully before the PGE can legitimately claim a profit.

Any well-run private business would also put aside reasonable sinking funds to retire its debt. The PGE would require \$5,000,000 or so a year to redeem its \$120,000,000 in bonds then outstanding.

Once this was provided it might fairly start paying dividends to its sole shareholder, the provincial treasury. Then indeed the PGE would be showing a proud profit.

Premier Bennett, however, builds public expectation of something like this right now when he talks about "operating surpluses." Mr. Bennett should instead tell the public that backed his PGE expansion program just how things are going.

The public accepted the probability of PGE losses as worthwhile if it opened up the interior. There's no indication that public sentiment has changed.

But if Mr. Bennett misleads the public now with mythical "profits," and then has to turn around and subsidize the railway against losses, disillusionment could be bitter.

Falsification now could seriously hurt the PGE in the future.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1958

## Gov't, Industry Hit For Delinquency

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Roderick Haig-Brown today charged the provincial government and industry both have contributed to juvenile delinquency during the province's construction boom.

The widely-known magistrate, author and sportsman made the statement before the legislature's social welfare committee probe of juvenile delinquency.

He said the contribution was made in the way both industry and the government have "pushed construction" projects throughout B.C.

"They are both pushing with no planning," he said. "The disruption large construction jobs create in communities, with loads of transient workers and high pay and high spending add to the delinquency problem."

Planning of projects is necessary, he said, so that both industry and government don't do too much at once.

He gave as an example the situation that developed in the Campbell River area recently when the government-controlled B.C. Power Commission forged ahead with large-scale power developments, and at the same time a pulp mill was built.

One or the other could have been delayed so the disruption would be lessened, he said.

Magistrate Haig-Brown also criticized inadequacy in the provincial probation system; said both the boys and girls industrial schools aren't "doing a job" because they don't provide selective treatment facilities; and recommended more psychiatric treatment be provided for offenders.

## Naturopaths Get New Law

VICTORIA—An amendment to the Naturopathic Physicians Act will be presented to the B.C. Legislature shortly.

Health Minister Eric Martin today gave notice that he would submit the bill to the House.

Mr. Martin declined to offer any information on the bill's contents but it is believed designed to eliminate doubts about the legality of naturopaths practising in B.C.

The question was raised in a Vancouver Sun report last year following the starvation deaths of two women who had been under naturopathic care.

## Gov't Ducks Probe Of Health Services

### Gordon Dowding Asks Inquiry To Prove Claims of Staff Cuts

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The provincial government Wednesday ducked a move to have a legislative inquiry into British Columbia mental health services.

A motion asking for a special House committee to prove claims of staff and service reductions, proposed by Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby), was shelved when Provincial Secretary W. D. Black adjourned debate.

Earlier in the session, the government rejected a similar move.

Mr. Dowding said the House was entitled to get the "true facts" in the face of government claims that the controversy has been prompted by "politics."

### "BEFOGGED" BY GOVT

"Such an inquiry would clear up the fog that has been blown around this thing by the government," he said.

"Professional persons involved have criticized conditions under which they must work and yet we get accusations of politics from the government."

"These people are in a better position to know than the provincial secretary."

### SUGGESTS BRIEFS

Before Mr. Black adjourned the debate, one Socred MLA (Dan Campbell-Comox) said he favored asking interested persons and organizations to send briefs to Mr. Black.

This, he said, would take the matter out of the "political arena. The briefs could be made available to all MLAs."

Mr. Black made no comment on this.

## Ontario Dope Centre Too, Declares Bonner

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Canada's drug traffic is centred in Ontario as much as it is in British Columbia, Attorney-General Robert Bonner told the legislature Wednesday.

He made the comment when debating a motion by George Gregory (Lib-Victoria) that asked B.C. to undertake "forthwith" with the federal government a "vigorous campaign" aimed at the "total elimination" of narcotic trafficking.

On Mr. Bonner's advice the motion was ruled out of order because it contained incorrect suggestions.

These were that B.C. was the centre of trafficking and that there wasn't at present a vigorous campaign against drugs.

"There is equally strong evidence that says the drug traffic is centred in Ontario," said Mr. Bonner. "And there is an entirely vigorous campaign under way in B.C. by the RCMP."

He said until there was one

general approach to the problem across Canada, "pure police methods" were not sufficient.

The question of the "state of mind and physiological aspects" of narcotic addiction had to be solved before adequate steps could be taken against narcotic addiction.

## City Gas 'Not Higher Than U.S.'

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan Wednesday denied British Columbia consumers of natural gas are paying more for the fuel than U.S. consumers.

He said Vancouver, Portland and Seattle consumers of natural gas from the Peace River area of B.C. all pay "substantially the same price, with the benefit of the doubt in favor of Vancouver."

The question was raised in the legislature by George Gregory (Lib-Victoria). He moved a resolution asking the B.C. government to tell Ottawa to ensure British Columbians pay no more than U.S. consumers.

Mr. Gregory's resolution stated B.C. gas is being sold for less in the U.S. than for domestic consumption.

He noted that a federal cabinet order of last year had the intent that no consumer in Canada should pay more for the product than any U.S. consumer, "in similar quantities and under similar conditions of sale for consumption in Canada."

Mr. Kiernan amended the

motion to ask the federal government to "take such action as is necessary to assure Canadian consumers that the intent of the order will be carried out."

CCF critics, after the motion was approved, complained it was meaningless because the federal order actually didn't intend to ensure equality of price because the gas isn't always sold "in similar quantities and under similar conditions" in both countries.

## HANSARD FOR B.C. URGED

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Opposition leader Robert Strachan Wednesday asked the government to introduce a system of verbatim recording of legislative proceedings as a centennial project.

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) remarked that school children 20 years from now, without Hansard, wouldn't be able to find out what Social Credit "was."

Provincial Secretary W. D. Black adjourned debate on the motion.

## Bennett R On Taxes

### Premier Hints In Unorganized

VICTORIA — The premier's lead in pay in lieu of local taxes on

Premier Bennett made this clear in the B.C. Legislature Wednesday in discussing a resolution urging the move proposed to the House by Rae Eddie (CCF-New Westminister).

The government's argument against the proposal was that municipalities are "anxious" to see provincial government buildings go up inside their boundaries, because of the jobs provided.

### IN UNORGANIZED AREAS

The premier asked at one point in the debate whether the opposition would like to see the government adopt a policy of placing such provincial services in unorganized territory.

The federal government agreed last year to pay grants in lieu of municipal taxes.

Mr. Bennett, in discussing general provincial - municipal financial arrangements, said the government would be happy to change its system of per capita grants to local governments.

"We changed the system from ear-marked sums for roads and so on to straight grants," said the premier, "because we felt it would allow municipalities more freedom in using the funds."

"But if Vancouver and other municipalities wish, we can change our annual \$11,000,000 municipal grants to the old system."

Vancouver gets \$2,500,000 of the \$11,000,000 in municipal grants.

### WILLING TO CHANGE

"If they (Vancouver) want the \$2,500,000 on a different formula, so much for roads so much for police, and so on we'll give it to them," he said.

"But no more than \$2,500,000?" asked Leo Nimsich (CCF-Cranbrook). The premier didn't reply.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) said the government's "excuse" was "lame and limp."

He said Vancouver loses \$278,615 annually because the Socred government won't pay property taxes to the city.



Thur., Mar. 6, 1958

## Bennett Raps City On Taxes, Grants

### Premier Hints Threat to Build In Unorganized Territory

VICTORIA — The provincial government will not follow Ottawa's lead in paying grants to municipalities in lieu of local taxes on government property.

Premier Bennett made this clear in the B.C. Legislature Wednesday in discussing a resolution urging the move, proposed to the House by Rae Eddie (CCF-New Westminster).

The government's argument against the proposal was that municipalities are "anxious" to see provincial government buildings go up inside their boundaries, because of the jobs provided.

#### IN UNORGANIZED AREAS

The premier asked at one point in the debate whether the opposition would like to see the government adopt a policy of placing such provincial services in unorganized territory.

The federal government agreed last year to pay grants in lieu of municipal taxes.

Mr. Bennett, in discussing general provincial-municipal financial arrangements, said the government would be happy to change its system of per capita grants to local governments.

"We changed the system from ear-marked sums for roads and so on to straight grants," said the premier, "because we felt it would allow municipalities more freedom in using the funds."

"But if Vancouver and other municipalities wish, we can change our annual \$11,000,000 municipal grants to the old system."

Vancouver gets \$2,500,000 of the \$11,000,000 in municipal grants.

#### WILLING TO CHANGE

"If they (Vancouver) want the \$2,500,000 on a different formula, so much for roads, so much for police, and so on, we'll give it to them," he said.

"But no more than \$2,500,000?" asked Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook). The premier didn't reply.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) said the government's "excuse" was "lame and limp."

He said Vancouver loses \$278,615 annually because the Socred government won't pay property taxes to the city.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

### Quiet Mr. Peterson Springs Surprise

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — The minister of education, Mr. Peterson, is quiet, modest and young — 34. Last session, because he was new to his big job, the Opposition let him off easy.

This session the CCF decided the time had come to put Mr. Peterson on the griddle and try to roast him.

This Opposition leader Strachan did to his own satisfaction.

He said that Mr. Peterson, instead of answering Opposition questions about school board financing, only got himself up on a soapbox and politically pontificated.

Mr. Strachan kept interrupting as Mr. Peterson explained; suddenly Mr. Peterson put hands on hips, leaned across his desk and said, sharp-like, to Mr. Strachan: "You just be quiet and listen to me."

For a second or two, Mr. Peterson seemed astonished at his new-found boldness. And then, encouraged by it, he said to Mr. Strachan, bolder than ever: "I never heard such utter nonsense coming from a supposedly responsible leader of the Opposition."

"You know, to hear him talk you'd think we were short-changing the school boards of this province."

After a half-hour battle of wits between the leader of the Opposition and the minister of education, Mr. Strachan succeeded in smoking out of Mr. Peterson the information he wanted — that school-board financing will be different this year.

When Mr. Peterson gets tougher and rougher, and older, like Mr. Strachan, he'll not let an oppositionist smoke him out against his will.

Gordon Wismer, for 15 years MLA for Vancouver-Centre, came calling on the legislature Wednesday.

He and his wife sat in honor seats on the floor of the House; the government side.

The premier spied Mr. Wismer, welcomed him, recalled the contribution Mr. Wismer made to B.C. public life.

CCF Mr. Turner of Vancouver East, for his party, also welcomed Mr. Wismer, talked of the good old days, when Mr. Wismer was the attorney-general.

Mr. Wismer, making a good recovery from a serious illness, grinned his thanks.

Of the 52 present-day MLAs, only seven sat in the legislature with Gordon Wismer, then called "the cowboy."

They are Tom Uphill of Fernie; Socred Bill Asselstine (then Liberal); Socred W. A. C. Bennett (then Conservative); Socred Mr. Lundell of Revelstoke (then Conservative), and CCFers Mr. Turner, Mr. Harding of Kaslo-Slocan and Mr. Nimsick of Cranbrook.

\*\*\*

The telephone company, becoming a popular whipping boy in the legislature, came into debate again Wednesday, but not for long.

Opposition Leader Strachan moved his resolution that the phone company be taken from Ottawa jurisdiction and placed under the B.C. government's Public Utilities Commission "in order that the rates and services can be controlled on behalf of the people of the province."

Mr. Strachan said that since 1916 "the people of B.C. have had absolutely no say over the operations of this public utility."

He said: "We have the right to control the B.C. Electric. There should be the same control over the telephone company."

Attorney-General Bonner, on the say-so of the premier, promptly adjourned debate, thus putting off further immediate discussion in the legislature of the telephone company, its rates and services.

For some reason, not clear, it appears the government doesn't want discussion of the phone company.

However, Mr. Strachan's resolution is still on the order paper, and it'll have to come up again, unless the government succeeds in letting it die, in which case Mr. Strachan may be expected to raise a rumpus.

## Chest Asks Probe Of Youth Services

### Victoria Urged to Shoulder More Responsibility in Moulding Future

The provincial government was asked today to shoulder more responsibility in moulding the future of the youth of British Columbia.

The request—a call for help—came from the Greater Vancouver Community Chest and Council.

The council urged the government to establish a royal commission to investigate youth services throughout the province.

It also asked it to set up a permanent committee to co-ordinate youth services at a high provincial level.

The council stressed that unless the government accepts this responsibility we shall never serve our youth properly.

It also cautioned that all youth services must concentrate on "preventive programs" rather than "punitive attitudes."

grams" rather than "punitive attitudes."

Five dedicated experts on youth problems presented the council's brief to the legislature's standing committee on social welfare and education.

Ald. Tom Alsbury, chairman of the council's youth service committee, led the delegation to Victoria.

He was accompanied by Dr. Lawrence E. Ranta, chairman of the council's social planning committee, Mrs. Reg Jessup, vice-chairman of the committee, Mrs. J. A. Folkins, chairman of the family and child welfare division and Ernest D. Hill, director of the social planning section.

## Local Groups Hamstrung

The Community Chest and Council said its committees and agencies serving youth were hamstrung by the lack of co-ordination by the government.

It said "local groups with limited information" cannot hope to "develop comprehensive and effective solutions to the total problem" without more government aid.

The brief contained these points:

"We are convinced it is necessary for the provincial government and its official agencies to accept responsibility for assembling the facts related to youth problems and for bringing together on a continuing basis all interested groups—both public and voluntary—to plan what must be done on the basis of these facts."

"... No close co-ordination exists on a continuing basis between the various youth-

serving departments of provincial government and their municipal and voluntary counterparts.

"We have become convinced, therefore, that no constructive, overall approach to youth problems can be made until provincial authorities undertake responsibility for bringing about effective co-ordination of all services dealing with youth."

Elaborating on the need for preventive programs rather than punitive attitudes, the brief said:

"It is to this end that we have consistently opposed the outdated demand that has been occasionally heard to have the legal age for juveniles lowered."

(Juvenile offenders 18 years old and over are now tried in adult court.)

(Many law enforcement officials want the age lowered to 16 or 17.)

## Rural School Tax Boosts Protested

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — An Opposition MLA Thursday complained about a "fantastic" increase in provincial government taxation of rural areas for school purposes.

Ran Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) demanded an explanation from Education Minister Peterson for an increase to \$3,399,990 for the coming year from \$7,299,990 during the current year.

Mr. Peterson said the increase was due "merely to the great industrial expansion that has taken place in many parts of British Columbia."

This expansion increased the amount of taxable property, he said.

Rural school costs are expected to come to \$9,400,000 in the 1958-59 fiscal year. The government had to vote only \$10 out of general revenue for rural school costs because of the increase in rural taxes.

## Not Just Delinquency

... the target for community study and action should not be restricted solely to juvenile delinquency," the brief continued.

"In order to be most effective, services to the youth of the community should have as their main objective the development of young people to become useful and productive adult citizens."

The brief asked that both the royal commission and the permanent coordinating committee be recommended to the present session of the legislature.

It envisioned the royal commission's duties in part:

1-To consider submissions from all interested organizations and individuals.

2-To acquire expert counsel from all sources familiar with problems and services to youth.

3-To make appropriate recommendations on the basis of the evidence assembled.

The brief said the permanent committee should be responsible for "overall co-ordination and planning of services to youth" so that government departments will work in "close liaison" with municipal and voluntary organizations.

It suggested that the committee's powers and constitution be laid down by the royal commission.

### PROVINCIAL BASIS

The delegation said it appeared primarily as spokesman for associations and voluntary service agencies in Greater Vancouver.

However, it pointed out that a large number of the Community Chest's 120 member organizations in the planning section are provincial and municipal departments in health, welfare and recreation.

In addition, many of its

voluntary groups are organized on a provincial basis.

"Our interests have always ranged far wider than the exclusive confines of Vancouver City and what we have to say here today is provincial rather than local in its scope," the brief said.

"To a considerable degree our experience in attempting to find answers to the various problems affecting our youth has forced us into this position."

"... We are a part really of a long tradition of citizen thought and activity on the problems of youth which has gone on in our city for many years."

### WORK TO CONTINUE

The brief also emphasized the community chest's youth work would continue regardless of what action was taken by the government.

"We are not looking for someone else to assume our burdens," it said.

"... We would be greatly upset if provincial action were undertaken without the full participation of community groups and individuals from the various parts of the province."

## 'Stinking' Building S

### City Juvenile, Family Disgrace, Magistrate

For Vancouver Community Chest, see page 19.

By ALEX

Vancouver Sun S

VICTORIA—Vancouver today described the city juvenile facilities as "an absolute disgrace."

Testifying before the legislature's social welfare committee probe of juvenile delinquency, the magistrate said the building originally was designed to provide facilities for eight court officials but is being used today by 35.

### TEA ROOM NOW

A room once used for interviewing people involved in juvenile and family court matters has been turned into a tea room and a small janitor's room is now being used for interviews, he said.

The magistrate was reading from a report prepared for him by his staff.

The over crowded facilities aren't so bad in the summer time, he said, when people can be accommodated "on the grass and on the porch."

### "STENCH" IN BUILDING

But in the winter, there is a "stench" accompanied by the sound of crying children throughout the building, he said.

This has been going on for five years, Magistrate Scott said.

The court is the city's responsibility, the magistrate noted. But, although, city council has decided to build an annex, it will be inadequate, he claimed.

### MORE OFFICERS URGED

Magistrate Scott, appearing as a representative of the B.C. Youth Council, suggested the government provide more probation officers for the juvenile and family court.

Then work could be concentrated on "keeping the family together, instead of concentrating on collecting support money from husbands who won't help their wives, as is done at present."

Magistrate Scott also proposed diversification of juvenile institutions in B.C.

### ALL MIXED TOGETHER

When he was a juvenile court judge, he said, he often found the boys' industrial school was the only place he could place such varied offenders as a mentally retarded youth, a 17-year-old psychopath, a young sex pervert and a 12-year-old ward of the Children's Aid Society.

At the same time, he said, BISCO was the only place for youths from good homes who were "the smart aleck type and who make a joke of probation."

Such boys don't need a 12-month sentence in BISCO, he said. Instead there should be an institution for sheer discipline—a place where the "smart aleck" type could be put for three months' detention.



# 'Stinking' Court Building Scored

## City Juvenile, Family Facilities Disgrace, Magistrate Tells MLAs

For Vancouver Community Chest brief to the committee, see page 19.

By ALEX YOUNG  
Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Vancouver Magistrate Gordon Scott today described the city juvenile and family court facilities as "an absolute disgrace to the community."

Testifying before the legislature's social welfare committee probe of juvenile delinquency, the magistrate said the building originally was designed to provide facilities for eight court officials but is being used today by 35.

### TEA ROOM NOW

A room once used for interviewing people involved in juvenile and family court matters has been turned into a tea room and a small janitor's room is now being used for interviews, he said.

The magistrate was reading from a report prepared for him by his staff.

The over crowded facilities aren't so bad in the summer time, he said, when people can be accommodated "on the grass and on the porch."

### "STENCH" IN BUILDING

But in the winter, there is a "stench" accompanied by the sound of crying children throughout the building, he said.

This has been going on for five years, Magistrate Scott said.

The court is the city's responsibility, the magistrate noted. But, although, city council has decided to build an annex, it will be inadequate, he claimed.

### MORE OFFICERS URGED

Magistrate Scott, appearing as a representative of the B.C. Youth Council, suggested the government provide more probation officers for the juvenile and family court.

Then work could be concentrated on "keeping the family together, instead of concentrating on collecting support money from husbands who won't help their wives, as is done at present."

Magistrate Scott also proposed diversification of juvenile institutions in B.C.

### ALL MIXED TOGETHER

When he was a juvenile court judge, he said, he often found the boys' industrial school was the only place he could place such varied offenders as a mentally retarded youth, a 17-year-old psychopath, a young sex pervert and a 12-year-old ward of the Children's Aid Society.

At the same time, he said, BISCO was the only place for youths from good homes who were "the smart aleck type and who make a joke of probation."

Such boys don't need a 12-month sentence in BISCO, he said. Instead there should be an institution for sheer discipline—a place where the "smart aleck" type could be put for three months' detention.

Fri., March 7, 1958

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Legislators Grunt, Groan In \$43 Million 'Rassle'

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—There was a long-drawn-out tug-of-war Thursday in the legislature, Socreds on one side, Oppositionists on the other.

There was some grunting and groaning from both sides, but no rude shouts.

It started on a \$43,000,000 vote in Education Minister Peterson's estimates, for grants in aid of education.

Oppositionists wanted to know how the money will be spent.

Mr. Peterson said they'll find out when the new Public Schools Act comes in.

"Oh, no," said the oppositionists, "that's not good enough."

They wanted to know right then and there. But Mr. Peterson had no intention of telling.

Oppositionists tried flatter Mr. Peterson.

CCF Mr. Squire of Alberni said Mr. Peterson is a fairly fine individual, and is doing a fine job.

Liberal Mr. Gregory of Victoria said the minister of education is head and shoulders above some other cabinet ministers.

CCF Mr. Dowding of Bur-

naby said the minister was asking the Legislature to sign a blank cheque.

Said lawyer Dowding to lawyer Peterson: "You shouldn't erode the standard practice of Parliament in this way."

"Let us know what we're voting this money for—it's a terrific sum," said CCF Mr. Harding of Kaslo-Slocan, and he seemed so helpless.

"I don't think it's right to ask Parliament to vote this money before we know what the money's going to be spent for," said Opposition Leader Strachan, not at all helpless.

It was at this point we knew the gentlemanly tug-of-war was raging, and the debate became fascinating. How would it end? The premier was out of the House and so no one could tell.

Lawyer-to-be CCF Mr. Gargrave said of lawyer Peterson: "I just cannot understand the minister being so stubborn."

"The minister playing the role of the reluctant dragon has merely whetted the appetites of the curious," he stated.

"Shall Vote 98 pass?" chairman Alex Matthew kept asking. That was the \$43,000,000.

"Aye," roared the Socreds. "Oh, no, it doesn't," said Opposition leader Strachan, giving his Oppositionists the signal to tug harder than ever.

Soon Mr. Matthew tired, and called Mr. Richter of Similkameen into the chair.

"Shall Vote 98 pass?" asked Mr. Richter.

"Aye," roared the Socreds.

"No," said the Oppositionists, begging the minister of education to hold the \$43,000,000 vote over until he

could explain to the House how it's going to be spent.

Mr. Peterson at this juncture showed no signs of weakening; neither did Attorney-General Bonner.

"Shall Vote 98 pass?" asked chairman Richter.

"Aye," roared the Socreds.

But up got Mr. Dowding again to quote from a book on law and constitution, showing, to Mr. Dowding's satisfaction, that what the minister proposed doing was unconstitutional—asking for money without telling MLAs what it's for.

The premier came back at this point, huddled with his attorney-general, whispered to the minister of education.

Up got the minister of education to say that, rather than take the time of the House in argument, why, of course, he'd hold the vote over—it was perfectly all right with him.

Oppositionists pounded their desks: They had won a point, but only because of the Government's courtesy.

It was a victory by default, so to speak, because the Government, with its big majority, had it wished, could have pushed the vote through.

And without any explanation to the Opposition.

However, the premier likely figures he has had enough trouble this session.

Now he'll be able to quote Thursday's tug-of-war as proof positive that the government is always ready to listen to the Opposition and co-operate with it.

Actually, it was a splendid debate, exciting, a battle of wits, and all in the highest parliamentary tradition.

Fri., March 7, 1958

## Gov't Backs Down On Education Vote

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The opposition Thursday forced the government to hold up approval of a \$43,658,000 allocation for education costs.

### MARTIN RAPS HEALTH DELAY

VICTORIA (CP) — The "unexplained and discriminate" delays by the federal government with regard to the national health plan were criticized in the B.C. Legislature Thursday night by Health Minister Eric Martin.

Mr. Martin said he read in the newspapers where Ontario has already signed an agreement with Ottawa for the plan and said it was "amazing as B.C. has only just received the draft agreement from the federal government."

### Sommers in House

VICTORIA (CP) — Former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers was back in the legislature Thursday afternoon. Mr. Sommers (SC-Rossland-Trail) is on \$10,000 bail after being committed for trial on bribery and conspiracy charges in Vancouver.

The Social Credit government backed down after half an hour of opposition argument that approval would be improper parliamentary practice because new legislation governing division of the outlay has not yet been presented to the house.

Education minister Les Peterson, pushing for approval, dismissed the CCF and Liberal argument.

But he said he was prepared to hold the money vote over until the legislation is ready "rather than have a prolonged argument of little or no consequence."

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) said Mr. Peterson was asking the house to sign "the biggest blank cheque handed out in a long time."

This was because, until the legislation was made public, MLAs would be voting without knowing specifically how the money would be spent.

A revised public schools act is to be presented to the House later in the session.

It will contain provision for a higher scale of teachers' salaries.

## CCF Members in Tiff Over Hoxsey Report

VICTORIA (CP) — The founder of the controversial Hoxsey cancer clinics in the U.S. was labelled on one hand Thursday night as a "psychopathic paranoid" and pictured on the other as a man trying to do something for cancer sufferers.

The issue arose in the B.C. Legislature during debates on Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin's estimated department expenses for the coming fiscal year.

With only two minor exceptions, the debate was wholly within the opposition CCF Party.

Mr. Martin's department, in conjunction with the education branch, last year sponsored a University of B.C. team's investigation into the Harry M. Hoxsey clinic in Dallas, Tex. The investigating committee's report damned the alleged cancer cure at the clinic as worthless.

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) said it was his personal opinion that Hoxsey was curing cancer and that the report by the UBC team, three of them medical doctors, was not complete.

But to find out what kind of a man Hoxsey really is, Tony Gargrave (CCF-MacKenzie) said, you have only to read his book.

He said he was "uneducated," a "quack" and a "con-man" preying on the hope of frightened people.

## UBC Needs Money To Teach Dentistry

### Can't Support Present Services, Says President MacKenzie

The University of British Columbia can't establish a dental faculty unless it gets the money for one, UBC president Dr. Norman A. M. MacKenzie said Thursday.

He made the comment after Social Credit MLA Tom Bate (Point Grey) urged in the Legislature that the government "crack the whip" to make UBC plan a dental faculty.

"When someone gives us enough money to maintain our present operations, we'll do it," he said.

"We don't get nearly enough to expand our services now," he said. "To add more would be impossible."

### 2,500 ENROLMENT

The UBC president said enrolment has jumped by 2,500 in two years and this has meant the university needs more money to maintain its services.

Two officials of the Canadian Dental Association urged a dental faculty in a talk with Dr. MacKenzie this week.

They were Dr. Arthur G. Racey of Montreal, president of the association, and Dr. J. W. Gullett of Toronto, secretary.

### "THE ONLY ANSWER"

They said a dental faculty in B.C. is the only answer to a proposed Legislative bill paving the way for dental technicians to deal directly with the public.

"Let's not fool around with such inferior measures (the bill) and give B.C. the kind of dentistry it should have," said Dr. Gullett.

## Socred Calls For Dental Faculty

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — A Social Credit MLA Thursday urged the government to "crack the whip" to make administrators of the University of British Columbia start planning for a dental faculty.

Tom Bate (Vancouver Point Grey) made the statement during legislature discussion of a \$4,334,000 vote for UBC operations.

He said he was "amazed" that a dental faculty had been "put at the bottom of the list" of UBC building projects.

"I don't think those running the university are taking this matter seriously enough," he said.

John Squire (CCF-Alberni) said he didn't agree UBC had placed low priority on a dental faculty.

Education Minister Les Peterson told the House the government didn't believe in "interfering" with the university administration.

Such planning is up to the senate and board of governors of UBC, he said.

Ran Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) complained that seven-eighths of B.C. has inadequate dental services.

This is "atrocious," he said. During the UBC discussion, Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) said the university had asked about \$1,000,000 more from the government for 1958-59 operations.

The government would have to do something about this, he said, if it wanted to avoid an increase in fees.

## Sweeping In New Mi

### Government Extends Privileges to 21-

By ALEX.

Vancouver Sun

VICTORIA — The province satisfy the mining industry year's controversial mining

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan presented a bill to the Legislature Friday that provides wide changes in the new lease system of disposing of mineral claims that was introduced last year.

Officials of the department said the government feels the bill "goes more than half way" to satisfy the industry, which complained that the leasing system of 1957 made for insecurity of tenure.

This was retarding development, the industry said.

### 2 TYPES OF LEASES

In effect, the 1957 change placed government pressure on holders of claims to get them into production. The amendment presented Friday greatly reduces this pressure.

The 1957 law said claims would no longer be crown granted in perpetuity.

Instead, there would be two types of lease—a five-year "retention lease" and a 21-year renewable production lease.

If the lease-holder didn't draw up some production plans in the first five years, he stood the chance of losing his claims. The government objective was to prevent companies from "sitting" on claims for long periods and deterring development.

### NO 'RETENTION LEASES'

The amendment does away with the retention lease.

Instead, a prospector may record a claim and, as long as he does a certain value of development work per year, can hold on to it indefinitely.

There is also provision for a 21-year lease, but production is no longer mandatory.

If the lessee does production work at any time during the 21-year period, the government is obliged to renew the lease for another 21 years.

The mines department feels this will do away with the "insecurity of tenure" complaints of the industry.

At the same time, the amendment provides for repair of "injustices" some prospectors complained about when the lease system was introduced last year.



SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1958

# Sweeping Changes In New Mining Act

## Government Extends Leasing Privileges to 21-Year Basis

By ALEX YOUNG  
Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The provincial government will try to satisfy the mining industry's complaints about last year's controversial mining tenure laws.

Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan presented a bill to the Legislature Friday that provides wide changes in the new lease system of disposing of mineral claims that was introduced last year.

Officials of the department said the government feels the bill "goes more than half way" to satisfy the industry, which complained that the leasing system of 1957 made for insecurity of tenure.

This was retarding development, the industry said.

### 2 TYPES OF LEASES

In effect, the 1957 change placed government pressure on holders of claims to get them into production. The amendment presented Friday greatly reduces this pressure.

The 1957 law said claims would no longer be crown granted in perpetuity.

Instead, there would be two types of lease—a five-year "retention lease" and a 21-year renewable production lease.

If the lease-holder didn't draw up some production plans in the first five years, he stood the chance of losing his claims. The government objective was to prevent companies from "sitting" on claims for long periods and deterring development.

### NO 'RETENTION LEASES'

The amendment does away with the retention lease.

Instead, a prospector may record a claim and, as long as he does a certain value of development work per year, can hold on to it indefinitely.

There is also provision for a 21-year lease, but production is no longer mandatory.

If the lessee does production work at any time during the 21-year period, the government is obliged to renew the lease for another 21 years.

The mines department feels this will do away with the "insecurity of tenure" complaints of the industry.

At the same time, the amendment provides for repair of "injustices" some prospectors complained about when the lease system was introduced last year.

### INJUSTICE CORRECTED

They said they had planned to get crown grants by doing the necessary assessment work and having their property surveyed. But the new act came in so fast they lost out.

If they can prove they had made bonafide attempts to get their property surveyed before Feb. 28 last year, the day the 1957 amendment was introduced, then they will be given crown grants.

Officials of the department say they are unable to estimate just how many crown grants this will involve. But they will be the last crown grants given.

Here are the details of what must be done by a claim holder to retain his claim:

### NEW CONDITIONS

He must do development work of \$100 per year after recording his claim or pay the government \$100 and do no work, or do part of \$100 worth of work and pay the balance in cash.

Officials of the mines department admit this would permit a claim-holder to hold a claim indefinitely without doing development.

But they point out a duly-recorded claim is only a "chatel" interest, whereas a 21-year lease legally amounts to a full interest in the property for 21 years.

Keeping a claim paid up on a yearly basis is not a firm basis on which a company might start production, officials say.

But a 21-year lease is, they state.

To get a lease, the claims must be surveyed and have at

least \$500 worth of exploratory work done on them.

When the lease is granted, and it must be granted if the required work is done, then for the first 10 years the leaseholder must spend the equivalent of \$4 per acre per year on each claim (a claim is 51 acres); there is also a charge of 50 cents per acre in lease fees.

For the last 11 years, the work charge goes to \$6 an acre and fees to \$1.

# Cities Get New Deal on Welfare

## Costs Cut and New Levying System Will Save Workers' Time

VICTORIA (CP)—A basic change in the method of levying the municipal share of welfare costs, which social workers say "will definitely save us lots of time," was announced by Welfare Minister Eric Martin in the legislature Friday.

As soon as a committee headed by Mr. Martin's deputy minister can work out the details, municipal share will be paid on a total population-per capita basis rather than the present "case load" basis.

### TIME SAVING

Mr. Martin said this will free welfare workers to do more work in the field.

Alex Davidson, assistant Victoria social welfare administrator, said the change will "save probably an average of half an hour per application, maybe three or four hours on a busy day."

The "case load" basis requires social workers to determine residence for at least one year without allowances for each applicant.

If such residence is found, the case is charged to the municipality, if not, it is a provincial responsibility.

### 5 PCT. CUT IN COSTS

"This is often a huge task and may entail checking back for 10 or 15 years," said the minister.

The new system was requested by the Union of B.C. Municipalities.

At present, municipalities pay 20 per cent of the cost for each welfare recipient on their rolls, the provincial government paying the rest.

This will be lowered to 15 per cent for the municipalities as from April 1.

# Police Won't Be Quizzed

VICTORIA—Vancouver Chief Constable George Archer has refused to let his youth detail appear before the Legislature's juvenile delinquency inquiry.

In a letter read to the House social welfare committee today, Chief Archer said the work of the youth detail was concentrated on "positive enforcement of law," while the committee was interested mainly in finding out about preventive measures.

Thus the detail would be able to offer little assistance to the committee, he said. The chief did, however, offer to provide any statistical information the committee might need if it could be made public.



## Health Insurance Stirs Up Ghosts

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—More than 20 years ago health insurance rocked the legislature. Friday, the same old subject rocked the same old legislature, like a ghost from the past.

Once health insurance caused the rafters to ring, not always musically, and the shouting voices of MLA's to become hoarse.

Friday it was just the same.

It all started when CCFers wanted to know what health and welfare minister Eric Martin proposes to do about full health insurance for the people of B.C.—doctors' bills, dentists' bills, outpatient care in hospitals, wigs, false teeth, wooden legs eye-glasses—everything, not only hospital bills, as now.

\*\*\*

CCF Mr. Squire of Alberni said the government shows what he called an "antediluvian" attitude towards full health insurance.

Mr. Martin wanted to know what Mr. Squire meant by that and Mr. Squire said he had to look it up, and Mr. Martin could look it up too.

To be sure, Mr. Squire always has a dictionary on his desk, and studies it when debate grows dull.

It's amazing how a man can educate himself, if he works hard. Not many do.

\*\*\*

Mr. Martin told of the tremendous cost of health services.

He said, if the doctors continue to increase their fees, as they're doing now, Heaven only knows how much health insurance will cost. There was not an MD. in the house to speak for the medical profession.

The hospitals of B.C., said Mr. Martin were never better off than now, thanks to hospital insurance.

Yet they're always asking for more money.

It's like a bottomless hole," said Mr. Martin. "There's never an end to the amount of money you can spend on health services."

Oppositionists kept insisting the government is not planning for a full health program.

Mr. Martin said the government is proceeding at the fastest possible pace.

Huh, said Mr. Squire, that's still too slow for him.

He then went back to 1936 when the legislature of that day, under Premier T. D. Pattullo, passed a health insurance act.

It was never proclaimed, but is still on the statute books.

Oppositionists wanted to know why it was never proclaimed.

The premier whispered to Mr. Martin that the Liberal party was playing politics then.

Mr. Martin said the premier had recalled the Liberal party was playing politics.

"The government of the day did not dare proclaim it," said Mr. Martin.

Oppositionists wanted to know why not.

Mr. Martin didn't say. He didn't even say he didn't know. He was just mysterious he wasn't going to tell all he knows.

\*\*\*

Mr. Martin referred to the then provincial secretary, the late Dr. G. M. Weir, who introduced the health insurance act.

"They were out to get him," said Mr. Martin, still mysterious. Oppositionists wanted to know who "they" was.

Mr. Martin wouldn't say.

What the Oppositionists were doing, of course, was trying to get Mr. Martin to say that the medical profession had killed the health insurance act years ago, and that they are still against it.

However, Mr. Martin wouldn't be smoked out; he's too wise to get himself into hot water with the MD's.

\*\*\*

Mr. Martin kept talking of the old days, which prompted CCF Mr. Turner of Vancouver to say it wasn't necessary to go back to the time of Moses.

Mr. Martin wondered where Mr. Turner's ancestors were in those days.

He suggested they may have been in the bullrushes, but more likely they were swinging from the trees.

Mr. Turner mumbled something about Mr. Martin being nothing but a political whirrigig, which didn't seem to worry Mr. Martin in the least.

Well, it was all very friendly and good-humored and serious too.

But no conclusions were reached. But the debate showed your MLA's are alive to the medical needs of the people.

And usually from an avalanche of talk in the legislature comes action someday for the benefit of all.

It's a slow and sometimes tedious path, blocked by many irritating rough spots, but it's the democratic way.

## Doctors Rapped For Fee Boosts

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Health Minister Eric Martin Friday attacked British Columbia doctors for "continually" increasing their fees.

He claimed the constant rise is forcing governments to provide government-run health insurance plans for citizens.

Mr. Martin made the statements during legislative debate on the proposed national health scheme.

"Doctors' fees are forcing us into protecting the public," he said, "just as increasing hospital costs forced us to take part in hospital insurance."

"It's just a bottomless hole into which we are pouring money."

Mr. Martin claimed the federal government was "stalling and dragging its feet" on a national health scheme.

Ottawa still hasn't offered a draft plan to B.C., he told the house, and he is "beginning to wonder if they are going to."

"I still hope they will, however, and that ultimately we will be able to have something starting July 1," Mr. Martin stated.

He said the province of Ontario was "in for real trouble" with its recently-concluded hospital insurance agreement with the federal government because Ontario planned a premium scheme to finance its share of the costs.

Premier Bennett entered the debate to flay the Diefenbaker government, claiming it hasn't been able to "see beyond the mountains" in federal-provincial relations with B.C.

"I am terribly disappointed in the Diefenbaker government," he said. "I thought they'd have more vision, but they have dealt more severely with B.C. than the Liberals did."

"I thought you two were friends," said a CCF member. "I put my interest in the people of Canada and of B.C. ahead of any personal friendship," said Mr. Bennett.

"I am a little alarmed the federal government is holding hands far too much with provinces of Ontario and Quebec for the interest of B.C.," he stated.



MONDAY, MARCH 10, 1958

## Council of Women Hit Working Wives

Broken Homes Feared When  
Independence Experienced

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Broken homes can be caused if a wife goes to work, the Provincial Council of Women told the legislature labor committee today.

In a supplementary brief to the committee inquiry into seasonal unemployment, the council said:

"It is commendable that a wife or mother takes employment to help out, but that may lead to serious difficulties.

"She may so enjoy the freedom and security of earning her own salary that she may be loth to give up the work when it is no longer necessary for her to work."

### CONTRAST

The council added it is possible a wife's attitude to her husband's inability to secure work, if she is working, "will lessen her affection and respect for him."

"Particularly is this so, if she is working with men who are successful," the brief stated. "This may eventually lead to a broken home."

In another brief to the committee today, the international railway brotherhoods drew attention to a decline in railway business, with resultant unemployment.

### MORATORIUM

The brotherhoods said a conference between the federal and provincial governments, along with municipalities and representatives of business and labor, is necessary to bring about a "satisfactory" solution to unemployment.

The B.C. government was asked to take the lead in arranging for a debt moratorium to protect those unemployed.

## Tories Won't Help PGE, Bennett Says

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett said Monday he has been unable to get the Progressive Conservative federal government to agree to pay any subsidy towards the cost of Pacific Great Eastern Railway expansion.

"They're worse than the Liberals," he told the legislature during debate on second reading of a bill increasing the PGE borrowing authority by \$30,000,000 to \$110,000,000.

"The Liberals at least said they'd pay a subsidy for the first 50 miles of the northern extension," he said. "But we can't get the Tories to subsidize even one mile."

In spite of this, he said, the Social Credit government plans to go ahead on its own if it has to.

"Of all our projects," he said, "this is one on which this government is risking its whole future."

Premier Bennett said the government could sell the PGE shares for \$65,000,000 today.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said the CCF would support the bill in principle, even though it indicated the premier had underestimated cost of the railway's northern and southern extensions.

## Socreds Not In Favor of Tolls — Phil

VICTORIA — More toll bridges will be built by the B.C. government when they are "necessary and absolutely needed," highways minister P. A. Gagliardi told the Legislature Monday.

But at the same time, he said, the Social Credit government is opposed to the idea of toll structures.

It has built them because it was "forced" to by governments in the past who "got nothing done."

Mr. Gagliardi was speaking on a bill proposing a \$20,000,000 increase in the B.C. toll highways and bridges authority's borrowing power.

This would place the borrowing limit at \$80,000,000.

Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie) said the government is borrowing large sums of money under the toll authority's name "simply to fulfil a political promise."

## MARTIN INTRODUCES BILL

# Government Will Abandon Control of Naturopaths

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Naturopaths themselves will be given freedom to decide who can conduct a naturopathy practice in British Columbia.

A bill to this effect was presented to the Legislature Monday by Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin.

It eliminates a "board of supervision," set up in 1948 to

oversee the profession and to pass on applicants for certificates of naturopathy.

When the bill before the legislature is approved, the naturopaths will be on a professional footing, much like medical doctors.

### DOCTORS CONCERNED

In Vancouver, Dr. Gordon Ferguson, executive director of the B.C. Medical Association, said the bill was regarded as a "matter of concern" by the BCMA.

The association plans to make a thorough study of it as soon as possible, he said.

"I am somewhat surprised by its terms, as reported in the press, but I cannot make any official statement until I have studied it," he added.

Dr. Lynn Gunn, registrar of the B.C. College of Physicians and Surgeons, said the college had "not been consulted in any way" by the government before it introduced the bill.

### ALL MEMBERS

Under the new bill regulations will be in the hands of a "board of naturopathic physicians" and an "examining board," all comprised of members of the B.C. Association of Naturopathic Physicians.

Members of the board of supervisors under the old naturopathic physicians act were not naturopaths. They were the provincial secretary, the dean of the arts faculty at the University of B.C., and the registrar of UBC.

Their job was to approve examinations written by applicants for naturopathy certificates, and to sign the certificates.

Government officials said the old board is being wiped out because it was "largely non-operative."

Please Turn to Page Two See: Naturopaths"

## Naturopaths Given New Power in Bill

Continued from Page 1

This was disclosed by The Vancouver Sun last December following the starvation death of a North Vancouver woman who had been under the care of a naturopath.

### CUTS AND CONTUSIONS

The Sun found that members of the board of supervision were unaware they were on the board.

The naturopaths bill also expands the definition of naturopathy, which at present covers only the "art of healing by natural methods or by drugless therapeutics," to cover first-aid treatment for "minor cuts, abrasions, and contusions, bandaging, and the taking of blood samples for haemoglobin estimation."

Another amendment provides that persons wishing to practice naturopathy must file proof of successful graduation from a recognized school of naturopathy approved by the board of naturopathic physicians.

### MEDICINES

For the first time, the applicants will have to submit to and pass exams, prescribed by the examining board, to include exams in anatomy, physiology, chemistry, pathology, histology, diagnosis, hygiene and sanitation, and the "theory and practice of naturopathy."

The board of naturopaths is given authority to provide a schedule of preparations and medicines that can be used by naturopaths.

This, say government officials,

is not intended to give naturopaths any more authority than they now have.

Doubt exists at present as to what medicines naturopaths may advise patients to take; this doubt extends even to vitamin pills.

### NO JURY DUTY

The new section eliminates this doubt. (Naturopaths have no authority to write prescriptions.)

Another part of the bill permits naturopaths to employ nurses or assistants, to act under the direction of naturopaths.

Naturopaths also are exempted, if they wish, from jury duty. This right has already been given medical doctors and other healing professions, government officials say.

## TUNNEL 'NOT FAR-FETCHED'

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — A tunnel linking the mainland with Vancouver Island was proposed in the Legislature Monday by Herb Bruch (SC-Esquamalt).

"It's not so far fetched today with our modern tunnel and bridge construction methods," he said.

## Students in Victoria

VICTORIA (CP)—The last group of high school students to visit the Legislature toured the buildings on Monday. The students were from high schools in the Vancouver district.

Br  
To

By S  
VICTO  
ter Lyle  
the How  
being "l  
lature's  
ing the  
nia copp  
The f  
of the  
SmeKing  
"gone o  
the com  
as the  
inquiry



Tues., Mar. 11, 1958

## Brief Backs Work For Married Women

Council of Women Puts Problem Before Legislative Committee

Married women should be free to take a job outside

the home if they want to.

"We feel that women have the right to make their own decisions," said Provincial Council of Women president Mrs. G. W. Kissick.

She was enlarging on a council brief to the legislature's labor committee on unemployment in Victoria Monday.

A situation where wives work while their husband's are jobless can lead to family rifts, the brief suggested.

However, a husband's unemployment in itself would not tend to break up a home, Mrs. Kissick said.

It would be a husband's, or wife's attitude to the situation — "a personality problem", she said.

Government plans to alleviate seasonal unemployment would help forestall any such family problems, she added.

Mrs. Kissick said surveys show there is no greater family trouble in homes where both husband and wife work than where only the husband is employed.

## \$17 Million Voted For B.C. Highways

House Holds Longest Night Sitting Of Session on Gagliardi Estimates

VICTORIA (CP)—The longest night sitting of the Legislature this session, slightly more than five hours, was necessary Monday before the House approved estimated expenditures of almost \$17,000,000 for the department of highways.

The total day and night sittings Tuesday were nine hours.

Questions covered a wide range, from travelling expenses to staff cuts.

A \$1,412,000 increase in estimated road maintenance expense for the coming year was announced. Total for B.C. is \$6,612,000.

Kamloops, Mr. Gagliardi's riding, was boosted to \$280,000 from \$220,000.

Other ridings:  
Alberni, \$121,000 (\$95,000);  
Comox, \$270,000 (\$212,000);  
Delta, \$131,000 (\$103,000);  
Dewdney, \$208,000 (\$163,000);  
Nelson-Creston, \$275,000 (\$216,000); Prince Rupert, \$110,000 (\$86,000).

Other increases: Cowichan-Newcastle, \$160,000 (\$126,000); Revelstoke \$167,000 (\$131,000).

## SORRY SIGNS SORRY IDEA?

VICTORIA (CP)—Highways Minister Gagliardi's "sorry" signs are a "huge joke and a laughingstock," Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) told the Legislature Monday night.

Mr. Gagliardi said "they've been copied all over North America—as far away as Hawaii."

## Britannia Company 'Unfair' To Mine Closure Hearing

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Labor Minister Lyle Wicks today attacked the Howe Sound Company for being "unfair" to the Legislature's labor committee probing the closure of the Britannia copper mine.

The firm, parent company of the Britannia Mining and Smelting Company, hadn't "gone out of its way" to help the committee, Mr. Wicks said as the committee opened its inquiry today.

Appearing for the company was A. G. Kirkland, general manager of the mine since the beginning of the year.

The labor minister's criticism was voiced after Mr. Kirkland said he was unable to answer a number of questions asked by committee members about economic matters involved in the shutdown of the mine Feb. 28.

"It seems to me they're not taking seriously the work of this committee," said Mr.

Wicks. "It's not fair to the committee. They should have someone here with more authority."

Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby) moved that officers of the company be subpoenaed but committee chairman Bert Price said this could not be done while the committee was hearing voluntary submissions.

It could be done at a private meeting of the committee later, he said.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

## CCF's Cox Springs Surprise on Gov't

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — To CCF Mr. Cox of Burnaby, on Monday in the Legislature, fell the rare privilege, for an Oppositionist, of adjourning second reading of a government bill.

When Mr. Cox moved adjournment, the premier looked astonished at him, such impudence, then considerably chagrined, and then, grinning benignly, he gave in to Mr. Cox.

Governments usually permit no Opposition tampering with government bills in their march through the House.

In recent days, however, this government has shown a new-found conciliatory attitude to the Opposition.

The other day, after a long drawn-out hassle, the government stood over a \$43,000,000 vote, so as to placate an irate Opposition.

\* \* \*

Opposition Leader Strachan started the Monday night sitting with a roar, by saying that when Highways Minister Gagliardi spoke a few weeks ago he had thrust upon the House what Mr. Strachan called an ear-splitting cacophony.

Mr. Strachan belabored Mr. Gagliardi, deliberately trying to cause him to fly into a fine rage.

Everything the Opposition does, said Mr. Strachan, in Mr. Gagliardi's view, is politics.

But everything the government does, in Mr. G's view, said Mr. Strachan, is progress.

Then Mr. Strachan said about all Mr. Gagliardi does is scream and shout to the rafters.

Mr. Gagliardi didn't nibble much on Mr. Strachan's bait.

He didn't grow too irate with Mr. Strachan and his CCFers.

He dismissed them by saying that last session he had said CCF stood for Confused, Confounded and Frustrated.

This session, he said, he has decided CCF stands for Canadian Cackling Fraternity. "We lay the eggs and they do the cackling," said Mr. Gagliardi, with a cackle.

\* \* \*

"You lay the eggs, all right," said several CCFers, to which Mr. Gagliardi replied: "And we hatch 'em, too."

Many MLAs, mostly Oppositionists, wanted this and that in the way of highways and bridges.

CCF Mr. Turner of Van-

couver East said the government should give more to Vancouver city, seeing as how much Vancouver city gives so much to the government.

Mr. Gagliardi said, yes, it's true, Vancouver makes a contribution to the government, but the government makes a tremendous contribution to Vancouver.

Mr. Gagliardi let forth with an avalanche of explaining everything he does, or does not do, to the satisfaction of himself and all good Socreds, but he failed to convince the Oppositionists.

They were not too disappointed, because they hadn't expected him to convince them.

## Bingo Tax Debate Meets With Delay

VICTORIA (CP) — Debate on the government's "Bingo Bill," an act to amend the Hospital Construction Aid Tax Act, was adjourned in the Legislature Monday.

The bill would make it clear that bingo is subject to amusement tax.

The debate adjournment was moved by Cedric Cox (CCF-Burnaby), without explanation.

It was believed the opposition objected to provisions giving the minister of finance, Premier Bennett, wide powers in determining what can be classed as a "contest" and thereby tax it.

Several other bills were given second reading.

One, transferring control and administration rights of parks from the forest department to the department of recreation and conservation, was questioned by Opposition leader Robert Strachan who said it appeared to give the minister power to set admission charges to provincial parks.

Recreation Minister Earle Westwood said there was no major change of policy in the operation of parks and denied admission to parks was planned at present.

A new act respecting superannuation of municipal employees was introduced by Provincial Secretary Wesley Black. It provides for government contribution of \$100,000 this year, with \$5,000 less each year following until at the end of a 20-year period the government will be making no contribution to the pension fund.

## BENNETT HITS TORY POLICY

VICTORIA (BUP) — B.C. Premier Bennett told the Legislature Monday the Diefenbaker administration in Ottawa "lacked vision" in its treatment of municipal problems.

The lawmakers approved in principal a measure to extend provincial guarantees of municipal borrowing for approved water and sewage projects.

## New School To Halt D

## School Boards M Teachers Must M

By Vancouver Sun  
VICTORIA — A new plan ending deadlocks between school boards and teachers was presented Tuesday to the Legislature.

The plan is part of a completely new Public Schools Act, the first major overhaul of B.C. school legislation since the first school act was passed in 1872.

## BLACKLIST FORBIDDEN

The bill also provides a new formula for provincial aid to education which would give school boards \$4,750,000 more this year.

The bill was introduced by Education Minister Leslie Peterson and given first reading by the house.

It would prohibit school boards from refusing to negotiate with their teachers on salaries and would also bar teachers from "blacklisting" school boards because of unsatisfactory pay provisions.

## PERMITS REDUCTIONS

Officials said increased grants to school boards under the revised formula will permit school tax reductions in 35 districts this year and will hold increases in other districts to "about two mills."

Without the higher grants, they said, tax increases would have run to five or 10 mills.

Disputes between teachers and school boards, such as the battles that flared up earlier this year, are virtually ruled out by sections of the new act.

## ARBITRATION BINDING

Last month the B.C. Teachers' Federation "blacklisted" some 16 school districts as having unfit salaries; at the time some districts refused to negotiate with teachers.

The new act says there must be negotiations.

It also provides for conciliation procedure where agreement can't be reached.

If there is no agreement after conciliation, then a dispute will go to arbitration, the results of which are binding.

Any "obstruction" by "any person or association" of the employment of a teacher by a board, or anyone trying to dissuade a board from giving adequate consideration to applications for employment, is guilty of an offence.

## \$500 PENALTY

Penalty under the summary convictions act is a fine of up to \$500.

In a dispute involving an individual teacher over dismissal, suspension or transfer, a new provision is made for hearing of the dispute.

At present such disputes are adjudicated by a "board of reference," headed by a lawyer nominated by the chief justice.



# New School Act To Halt Deadlocks

School Boards Must Negotiate—  
Teachers Must Not Blacklist

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—A new plan for negotiations aimed at ending deadlocks between school boards and teachers was presented Tuesday to the B.C. legislature.

The plan is part of a completely new Public Schools Act, the first major overhaul of B.C. school legislation since the first school act was passed in 1872.

## BLACKLIST FORBIDDEN

The bill also provides a new formula for provincial aid to education which would give school boards \$4,750,000 more this year.

The bill was introduced by Education Minister Leslie Peterson and given first reading by the house.

It would prohibit school boards from refusing to negotiate with their teachers on salaries and would also bar teachers from "blacklisting" school boards because of unsatisfactory pay provisions.

## PERMITS REDUCTIONS

Officials said increased grants to school boards under the revised formula will permit school tax reductions in 35 districts this year and will hold increases in other districts to "about two mills."

Without the higher grants, they said, tax increases would have run to five or 10 mills.

Disputes between teachers and school boards, such as the battles that flared up earlier this year, are virtually ruled out by sections of the new act.

## ARBITRATION BINDING

Last month the B.C. Teachers' Federation "blacklisted" some 16 school districts as having unfit salaries; at the time some districts refused to negotiate with teachers.

The new act says there must be negotiations.

It also provides for conciliation procedure where agreement can't be reached.

If there is no agreement after conciliation, then a dispute will go to arbitration, the results of which are binding.

Any "obstruction" by "any person or association" of the employment of a teacher by a board, or anyone trying to dissuade a board from giving adequate consideration to applications for employment, is guilty of an offence.

## \$500 PENALTY

Penalty under the summary convictions act is a fine of up to \$500.

In a dispute involving an individual teacher over dismissal, suspension or transfer, a new provision is made for hearing of the dispute.

At present such disputes are adjudicated by a "board of reference," headed by a lawyer nominated by the chief justice.

## 3 PERSONS

Before such a board will be used in future, an "investigation committee" may be called, consisting of a nominee of the Teachers' Federation, a nominee of the school board involved, and a third person appointed by both sides.

If the investigating committee upholds the board's action, the teacher involved may ask for adjudication by a board of reference, but the minister of education has the right to refuse or grant the request.

## DRASTIC CHANGES

The most significant change is the basis on which the provincial government contributes towards school costs, both operating and capital.

The formula on which the province pays towards teachers' salaries has been changed.

The act provides for an increase in the basic scale of these salaries, based on current salaries.

The provincial cabinet will set the new salary scale soon.

The formula for financing general operating costs is drastically changed. When the Social Credit government introduced the present formula in 1955, it was on this basis:

B.C. would, for three years, approve costs on the basis of 1955 costs. The local school district would pay towards these costs the amount of money raised by seven mills of taxation, if the district was rural, and 10 mills, if the district was municipal.

## 75-25 SPLIT

The balance would be paid in provincial government grants.

Anything above 1955 costs would be shared, 75 per cent by the provincial government and 25 per cent by the school board.

Under the new act school board budgets will be approved on the basis of current costs and the increase in approved costs will be paid entirely by the government.

The "approved costs" qualification is the government's only means of controlling costs.

Anything above the "approved costs" will have to be met by the local school board.

In cases of "special hardship," where a school district doesn't have enough assessment to tax without a substantial increase in its mill rate, the government "may" make "supplementary grants."

The supplementary amount has been limited to 85 per cent.

Increased financial responsibility will be placed on school boards under the new act.

# Williston Warned He Faces Scandal

VICTORIA (CP) — Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston was warned Tuesday he will become involved in a scandal unless he orders a complete investigation of existing forest management licences.

George Gregory (L—Victoria) warned the minister that without such an investigation he "will become involved in the scandal already around the head of his predecessor."

Mr. Williston had said only a few minutes earlier he had found "nothing out of line" after checking existing licences.

"We in the Liberal group believe the people in British Columbia think there was something very seriously wrong in the administration of the lands and forests de-

partment under your predecessor," said Mr. Gregory.

He said the fact Mr. Sommers and others had been committed to stand trial "shows there is a prima facie case of guilt."

"How can you say there is no evidence that there hasn't been any wrongdoing?"

# Power Line Tax Protested

Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — B.C. Electric Co. today opposed a plan to re-impose a municipal tax on its power lines.

Counsel Douglas Patterson appeared before the legislative committee on municipal affairs to protest a proposed amendment to the Municipal Act.

The original tax was imposed in 1956 on transmission lines and lifted in 1957 in favor of a one per cent tax on the utility's gross revenue from power sales within a municipality.

## 9 MILLS INSTEAD OF 7

Rural districts will in future have to pay as their share of school costs the amount of money raised by nine mills of taxation instead of seven mills.

And municipal school districts will have to pay in future the amount of money raised by 12 mills, instead of 10.

Government officials say without this increase in the "millrate factor" the government would be paying some \$9,000,000 extra towards school costs, instead of \$4,500,000.

However, they say, by assuming the extra burden the government is preventing substantial millrate increases in many districts.

The government also is revising its formula for sharing capital costs in costs of new school buildings.

## BIGGER SHARE OF COSTS

At present, the government shares capital costs with boards on a 50-50 basis until the local share exceeds the amount of money that can be raised by three mills of district taxation.

When the local share exceeds three mills, the government pays 75 per cent of the excess, with the school board paying 25 per cent.

The change provides a 50-50 split for the first three mills; a 75-25 split for the next 1½ mills, and provincial government responsibility for anything above 4½ mills is 90 per cent, with boards paying the other 10 per cent.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1958

## CCF Assails Gov't Forestry Policy

'Tree Farm' Program Called  
'Attempt to Deodorize Licences'

VICTORIA (CP)—General and specific criticism of the government forestry policy was made in the legislature Tuesday by opposition leader Robert Strachan.

Mr. Strachan said "many tragic mistakes have been made" with regards to forestry and predicted "what we do in the legislature this year will determine to a large extent what situation exists in the province 50 or 100 years from now."

He said the forest service and the forest companies "have left undone work that should have been done," but said the service "has never been allowed to do the job it was set up to do—manage and perpetuate our forests."

### "SCANT: INCOMPLETE"

Speaking in the debate on estimated expenditures in the lands and forests department for the coming fiscal year, Mr. Strachan said recommendations made in recent forest legislation presented to the house are "scant and incomplete."

The renaming of forest management licences to tree farms is just "an attempt to deodorize forest management licences without removing the cause of the smell, which is the monopolistic control of forest resources," he said.

Mr. Strachan said present government forest legislation is an aid to monopolies and "builds little empires throughout British Columbia."

The budget for the coming fiscal year, which starts April 1, "has scuttled the Sloan report," he said.

Departments recommended by Gordon Sloan in his report for expansion—forest ranger school, research, engineering and others—all have been "cut to the very bone."

### MUST BE FEDERAL AID

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said British Columbia's forest industry is operating "on a very firm sustained yield basis," but the federal government soon would have to begin financial contributions to the operation.

"We are operating to the benefit of the government of Canada, whether we like it or not. If we are to continue then we have to have greater assistance in developing a sustained yield program which provides revenue to the government of Canada."

He said the federal government "can't continue to take 99 per cent of the profit and return only one per cent."

## DOCTORS DISPUTE

### Medical Service Plan Extended

VICTORIA (CP)—A 30-day extension of the social assistance medical service program was agreed to Tuesday night at a meeting between doctors and a special legislative committee.

The committee was formed after the B.C. division of the Canadian Medical Association gave notice they would not renew their agreement with the government at the end of this month.

The extension was given after the committee suggested 30 days would be enough time to reach a decision on whether to increase the government contribution to the plan, currently \$1,500,000.

### Subpoenas Mooted in Mine Probe

VICTORIA — The legislature's select committee on labor will meet next Monday to decide what move to make next in its inquiry into closure of the Britannia copper mine.

It's possible directors of the Howe Sound Company, parent company to Britannia Mining and Smelting Co., will be ordered to appear before the committee to explain their action in closing the mine Feb. 28.

The committee has the right to subpoena individuals to appear. Subpoenas are valid only in Canada and not in the U.S.

## Bill Gives School Boards More Power to Expel Lazy

VICTORIA — School boards B.C.'s proposed new Public Schools Act. Legislation proposed to deal with lazy, sloppy or disobedient students under legislature Tuesday would give

the boards power — clearly stated for the first time—to set standards of classroom conduct.

The boards could:

- 1—Expel any student over 15 who "fails to apply himself to his studies."
- 2—Bar any student over 15 who "fails to comply with the rules and regulations of the school."
- 3—Prescribe the kind of clothing to be worn to school, from uniforms to such informal garb as slacks or shorts for girls.
- 4—Establish rules governing deportment of students.

The bill retains a provision of the old school act under which any student or other person who causes a disturbance in class or at an after-school function could be fined.

The section providing for the expulsion of "seatwarmers" follows recent criticisms that some students are simply taking up valuable space in overcrowded schools, attending classes but making no serious effort to keep up their studies.

The power is clearly stated to avert any controversy of the type that followed the ex-

Please Turn to Page Two  
See: "School Board"

## School Boards to Get Wider Powers

Continued from Page 1

pulsion of a lazy student in Calgary recently. There was a dispute there as to whether the school board had the right to expel the student. The new B.C. act eliminates any doubt.

Vancouver School Board disclosed today about 100 lazy students were dropped from school last year.

Board officials said they were asked to withdraw when their work proved unsatisfactory. They were all 16 years of age or older.

A spokesman said there were many other "borderline" cases among Vancouver's 57,000-odd pupils.

However, their studies usually improved after parents informed of the situation "pressured" them to work, he said.

Education department officials said the act spells out, for the first time, the board's power to govern dress and deportment of students.

In the past rules regarding students' clothing have generally been set by principals. This has sometimes meant different rules for two schools in the same school district.

The new bill says:

"Every pupil shall attend

school regularly, be clean and tidy in person and present himself punctually at each session of school clothed appropriately, in keeping with the custom of the school as sanctioned by the board.

"Every pupil shall conform to the rules of the school, be obedient to his instructors and diligent in his studies."

Officials said boards would be able to dictate that pupils wear uniforms or, at the other extreme, allow girls to wear shorts to class.

Other changes in the act! The title, but not the duties, of an inspector of schools would be changed to "district superintendent";

Teachers would be given more opportunity for appeals against dismissal, suspension or transfer;

Anyone, student or otherwise, could be fined for creating a disturbance in a school either during classes or at after-school functions.

Qualifications for voters and trustees would be brought into line with last year's amendments to the Municipal Act.

School poll taxes would be abolished.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

### Exhausted Want to

By JAMES

VICTORIA—The fire out of the legislature.

MLAs are now on the long and wearying drag toward prorogation. They are exhausted, most of them, by their speech-making, though a few hardy souls bravely carry on, undiscouraged by the fact that few listen.

There may be a few more spurts of life before the end, but generally the MLAs have had it for this session.

They'll continue to vote money and make new laws, but they are now hearing the calls of home, and they yearn to answer.

\*\*\*

The weather may have something to do with it.

Tuesday the sun streamed through the high windows of the legislative chamber, and glimpses of blue, blue sky could be seen.

The magic siren cry of the lawn-mower could be heard, and the heady perfume of daffodils and hyacinths and cherry blossoms somehow got into the chamber.

It could be, too, that the public galleries are almost empty these days, and MLAs need an audience to spark them.

But, when the world of spring is burgeoning, MLAs, being human, like you and me, grow restless, desire nothing more than to pick up their indemnities and be gone.

This capital may be beautiful, but to an MLA his home town looks more beautiful after he has been here six weeks.

Especially on the eve of a federal election, when he's anxious to help a political pal get into Commons.

\*\*\*

Tuesday there was discussion of forestry matters. Opposition Leader Strachan made a speech on this important subject.

It's becoming daily more evident that the CC group in the house is turning more and more into a one-man show, and that man is the chief, Mr. Strachan.

All the CCFers, talk, of course, but it's Mr. Strachan who makes all the important speeches.

His followers say their pieces when he's finished.

On every department of government he delivers a major policy speech.

In this way, bound and colored, of course, by his brand of politics, Mr. Strachan has become an expert on most facets of B.C. life.

He is doing a great deal of study, speaks with assurance, and has garnered unto himself a great storehouse of knowledge about this province.



Wed., Mar. 12, 1958

## Exhausted MLAs Want to Go Home

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—The fire and brimstone have gone out of the legislature.

MLAs are now on the long and wearying drag toward prorogation. They are exhausted, most of them, by their speech-making, though a few hardy souls bravely carry on, undiscouraged by the fact that few listen.

There may be a few more spurts of life before the end, but generally the MLAs have had it for this session.

They'll continue to vote money and make new laws, but they are now hearing the calls of home, and they yearn to answer.

\* \* \*

The weather may have something to do with it.

Tuesday the sun streamed through the high windows of the legislative chamber, and glimpses of blue, blue sky could be seen.

The magic siren cry of the lawn-mower could be heard, and the heady perfume of daffodils and hyacinths and cherry blossoms somehow got into the chamber.

It could be, too, that the public galleries are almost empty these days, and MLAs need an audience to spark them.

But, when the world of spring is burgeoning, MLAs, being human, like you and me, grow restless, desire nothing more than to pick up their indemnities and be gone.

This capital may be beautiful, but to an MLA his home town looks more beautiful after he has been here six weeks.

Especially on the eve of a federal election, when he's anxious to help a political pal get into Commons.

\* \* \*

Tuesday there was discussion of forestry matters. Opposition Leader Strachan made a speech on this important subject.

It's becoming daily more evident that the CC group in the house is turning more and more into a one-man show, and that man is the chief, Mr. Strachan.

All the CCFers, talk, of course, but it's Mr. Strachan who makes all the important speeches.

His followers say their pieces when he's finished.

On every department of government he delivers a major policy speech.

In this way, bound and colored, of course, by his brand of politics, Mr. Strachan has become an expert on most facets of B.C. life.

He is doing a great deal of study, speaks with assurance, and has garnered unto himself a great storehouse of knowledge about this province.

Tuesday Mr. Strachan attacked the government's forestry policy, which, to him, is a prime example of what he's sure is the hideousness of capitalism.

Once again he stressed the CCF's forest policy, which is this: The natural resources of the province belong to the people, and should be controlled for the people through the legislature.

In other words, Mr. Strachan, if he ever becomes premier, would socialize the forests.

Of this, he makes no secret.

"The public," said Mr.

Strachan Tuesday, "has no confidence in a system of forestry that gives them no say."

"The public is unhappy, labor is unhappy — the only people who are happy are the industrialists who have forest management licences."

This is extreme, but it's Mr. Strachan's considered viewpoint.

\* \* \*

Mr. Williston, the Minister of Lands and Forest, answered Mr. Strachan.

Mr. Williston said Mr. Strachan had only been making a statement of CCF policy, a policy to which Mrs. Williston said he could not subscribe or agree.

Because, he said, the government is doing well with its forest policy. No section of Canada or the U.S. or anywhere else, for that matter said Mr. Williston can touch B.C. for its sustained yield forest program.

All afternoon oppositionists went after the government's program. CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby made a long speech, and at one point only 15 Socreds were in the House.

And they weren't paying any attention.

\* \* \*

Mr. Williston explained his forest policies, once lost his patience a little, and told the CCFers they're standing on shifting sands. They don't know what they are talking about.

For goodness sake, said Mr. Williston, why don't they get their feet on the ground and try to get a proper picture of the B.C. forestry picture, instead of running around talking about that which they know nothing.

And so MLAs debated forestry.

But they had a difficult time of it competing with the springtime lethargy which has descended upon the House.

Even the premier has become bored; he has never before absented himself as much as during this session.

## Teachers Like Bill, Trustees Opposed

Teachers and trustees have split sharply on the value of wage-bargaining machinery in the proposed new Public Schools Act.

Vancouver school board chairman George Robson charged the new provision for conciliation will only delay settlements.

B.C. Teachers' Federation president Mollie Cottingham termed it "a welcome step" that will "help" settlements.

Teachers and school boards under the existing act are restricted to either negotiation or arbitration on salary talks.

Mr. Robson's stand: "Introduction of this third step seems to be just a repetition of negotiations."

Miss Cottingham answered that conciliation is recognized as a necessary part of labor relations.

Purpose of conciliation is not necessarily to arrive at a decision but to "bring parties together," she said.

"Key to it is the government-municipality sharing basis for teachers' salaries," said Mr. Robson.

Mr. Robson said it could mean extra money for Vancouver if Vancouver salaries were used, and the reverse if the B.C. average was used.

## Gas Station Man Opposes Curbs

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—An independent service station operator today spoke in support of major oil companies in their opposition to proposed regulation of B.C. service station hours.

A. G. Beattie, Victoria gas station operator, told the Legislature's committee on municipal matters that the regulation proposed in amendments to the municipal act were "discrimination applied under the guise of fair play."

The present Municipal Act permits municipalities to exempt gas stations from control, and few municipalities have applied controls.

This should continue, Mr. Beattie said.

The suggested amendment, backed by the Automotive Retailers Association, with about 1,200 service station members, would close stations at 6 p.m., with provision for later opening, but only on the basis of 24-hour service.

"Certainly centennial year is no time to curtail services for visitors," said Mr. Beattie. "Why not give unrestricted operation at least a year's trial. We have had eight years of discrimination."

Regulations in the municipal act would apply to all municipalities but Vancouver, which operates under a city charter and permits service stations unrestricted operation.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## Delay in Naturopath Bill Urged

The B.C. College of Physicians and Surgeons urged the government Wednesday to take a "second look" at its proposed new naturopaths bill.

The college's executive council made the appeal direct to Premier W. A. C. Bennett.

It suggested the government consider its "factual information" on naturopaths' activities before making the bill law.

Dr. Lynn Gunn, college registrar, said this information included documents showing naturopaths "are not highly regarded in most other places" in North America.

He said 33 of the 48 states do not recognize them and six which once did have rescinded recognition.

The western provinces have naturopath bills, Ontario has a bill for drugless healers, and the rest of the provinces do not recognize them, he added.

The Social Credit government's new bill would give naturopaths control of their practice here with a professional status similar to that of medical doctors.

Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin introduced it to the Legislature Monday.

## Dentists See Peril In Technician Act

B.C. dental health standards would topple if the proposed "Dental Technicians Act" becomes law, it was claimed in Victoria Wednesday.

The claim was made in a brief presented to a special legislative committee by the College of Dental Surgeons of B.C. and the Dental Laboratory Association of B.C.

### RESULT 'DISASTER'

The two groups are fighting the proposed act that would give technicians the right to make and repair denture and deal directly with the public.

It would reduce B.C.'s standards "to the lowest in Canada — lower than any civilized country except India and China," said the brief.

Similar legislation had been tried and discarded because of "disastrous results" in other countries, including England, Sweden and Germany, it added.

### 200 AGAINST 75

Support for the bill came from a "noisy minority of dental technicians with purely mercenary motives," charged the brief.

It named the Dental Technicians Society, "representing a group variously estimated between 52 and 75, almost entirely concentrated in the Greater Vancouver area."

The Dental Laboratory Association of B.C., a party to the brief, "represents the ethical opinion and practices of 200 dental technicians throughout the province," stated the submission.

## New Idea: Send Scouts to Alaska

An editor knocked the Panhandle and threw everybody into a stew.

J. B. McGeachy, associate editor of Toronto's Financial Post, suggested Canada buy the 50,000 square miles of the Alaska Panhandle.

In Victoria Attorney-General Robert Bonner put salt into the stew by musing that buying the Panhandle was "a noble idea for a centennial project."

He suggested Boy Scouts marching in, Premier Bennett stopped him with the reminder that "it isn't in the estimates."

If B.C. can't get the Panhandle it might get a hole punched through it.

The Panhandle blocks much of northern B.C. from access to the sea. An "access corridor" across the territory in exchange for water power from the Yukon River has been suggested.

The Alaskan delegate to Congress, E. L. Barthlett, says he would like to see that come about—"But selling the Panhandle, that's a little too much."

## Sliding Wage Suggested To Reopen Britannia

VICTORIA—A proposal to reopen Britannia copper mine was made today by the legislature's labor committee.

The committee wants to know whether the company is willing to negotiate with the Mill and Smelter Workers' Union on the basis of tying

wages to the price of copper.

(Company reason for the closure was that the international copper market had fallen to the point where operations were creating too great a loss.)

The committee also invited alternate proposals.

## Law to Prevent Fraud Proposed

Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — Anti-fraud legislation will be proposed to the B.C. Legislature by Attorney-General Robert Bonner.

Mr. Bonner has given notice that he will introduce the bill entitled "an act for prevention of frauds," on Friday.

A Vancouver Sun editorial

last year proposed establishment of a branch within the attorney-general's department to protect the public against consumer frauds.



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1958

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Labor Questions Can Be Confusing

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Labor Minister Lyle Wicks and CCF Mr. Nimsick of Cranbrook kept making speeches in the legislature Wednesday.

Mr. Nimsick was under the impression he was asking Mr. Wicks questions about the department of labor, and Mr. Wicks was under the impression he was answering Mr. Nimsick.

Mr. Wicks, needless to say, couldn't bring himself to understand Mr. Nimsick's questions, and Mr. Nimsick, for the life of him, couldn't understand the answers Mr. Wicks thought he was making.

This strange, confusing and somewhat amusing state of affairs came about during discussion of the always-controversial Workmen's Compensation Act.

Mr. Nimsick, who doesn't like anything the Sacred government does in the way of labor legislation, said the government stubbornly refuses to change any of the, what he called fundamental, iniquities of this act.

Mr. Nimsick, one would gather from his remarks, financially protects the employers.

Mr. Wicks talked about the WCA, and he seemed to think it's functioning well enough, which is natural, because if Mr. Wicks didn't like the WCA he'd take steps to change it.

Mr. Nimsick listened to Mr. Wicks for five minutes, and then he said to Mr. Wicks, "Are you answering my questions?"

Mr. Wicks, thus tackled, didn't seem to be sure, so he sat down.

Up got Mr. Nimsick again and asked his questions all over again—rhetorical questions they were.

"The honorable minister is trying to twist things," said Mr. Nimsick, and in five minutes, when Mr. Nimsick paused for breath, Mr. Wicks asked him: "Are you through?"

Mr. Nimsick, unable to think of anything else for the moment, rare for him, sat down.

Up got Mr. Wicks again—and so it went for some hours.

When labor department estimates are debated, I think of George Pearson, so long the minister of labor, who'll be 78 next month.

Mr. Pearson was once invited to open a new maternity wing of a hospital.

When Mr. Pearson's boss, then Premier John Hart, heard of his minister of labor opening a maternity wing he quipped: "Most appropriate — always did say George makes a darn good delivery."

MLAs got themselves lost down many pathways as they discussed labor department estimates.

Liberal Mr. Gregory of Victoria thought the government should do something about the electrical workers' strike.

By the way Mr. Wicks answered, it was easy to tell the government's not going to do anything.

Sacred Mr. Gibson of Delta sidetracked the electrical workers' strike by giving the House a symposium on human anatomy, complete with cadavers, and specializing in sacroiliac joints, slightly movable joints.

He had something, too, about a young lady's joints, at which Mr. Uphill of Fernie looked up eagerly from the newspaper he was reading.

And so went Wednesday in the Legislature—afternoon and night sittings given over pretty well to labor problems.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1958

## Gov't Information Pledge Boomerangs

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The Social Credit government pledge to "keep the people informed" boomeranged in the legislature Thursday.

A government MLA voted against the Sacred administration when the government said it could not accept an opposition motion for introduction of a Hansard system of verbatim recording of legislative proceedings.

Donald Smith (Victoria) said he would have to vote against the government because the people of Victoria had elected him to support the government, and that a Hansard is in keeping with the government policy of keeping the people informed.

It is the fifth year in a row the Hansard issue has been raised. The government in 1954 agreed to study the question, but reported to the House it would be too expensive.

Thursday provincial secretary W. D. Black, during a heated hour-long debate on the issue, explained the government's stand, before the motion was defeated 32-14.

He said the government was not concerned with the cost factor. What was said in the House, he maintained, would not be remembered; what was done would be.

## CCF Fails In Phone Curb Bid

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—A CCF move to bring the British Columbia Telephone Company under control of the Public Utilities Commission was defeated by the government Thursday.

But in defeating the motion by Opposition leader Robert Strachan, the government indicated it sympathized with the Opposition position.

Mr. Strachan told the legislature the telephone company rates are controlled by the federal board of transport commissioners, but that its standard of service is uncontrolled.

Public Utilities Commission control, he said, would require a proper standard of service.

### ERRORS OF FACT

Attorney-General Robert Bonner, speaking for the government, said Mr. Strachan's motion contained some errors of fact.

He disputed a statement that telephone service in B.C. was under "ineffective control" and that application for the switch should be made to the transport commissioners, not the federal government.

If Mr. Strachan could provide better points of argument, said Mr. Bonner, "his points may command themselves to the government in due time."

### SERVICE REFUSED

Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) said the company had not shown a "dedication to service commensurate with its profit."

He claimed the company had refused to provide service in some rural areas.

Mr. Dowding claimed the people in B.C. are "paying a heavy tribute to this monopoly."

Because the telephone company was "closely tied" with telephone supply companies there was room for "a wonderful field day for profiteering," he claimed.

## House Won't Probe Rates On Ferry

VICTORIA — The government Thursday rejected a proposal for a legislative committee inquiry into rates charged on the Vancouver-Powell River run of Black Ball ferries.

The proposal was made by Tony Gargrave (CCF, MacKenzie). Powell River is in his riding.

The motion was defeated by a vote of 32 to 10 with Liberal MLA Archie Gibbs of Oak Bay voting with the government.

A Liberal-Conservative government made the contract under which Black Ball rates were established in 1951.

Highways Minister P. A. Gagliardi said the government could not "abrogate" a contract of a previous government.

Mr. Gargrave, before he presented the Black Ball motion, got unanimous support in the House to a motion reaffirming the Legislature's endorsement of "effective public control" of monopoly public transportation when it is awarded by statute.

## MLAs Hear Dental Technicians' Brief

Sell Two-Thirds of Dentures Bought By B.C. Public, Legislators Told

Dental technicians claimed Thursday their colleagues sell two-thirds of dentures bought by the British Columbia public.

The claim was made in a brief presented in Victoria to a legislative committee by the Public Denturists Society of B.C., which is fighting for an act that would legalize such dealings.

"It has been contended by our society and not denied by the profession that approximately two-thirds of the dentures supplied to the general public have been furnished directly by dental technicians," the brief read.

The technicians pointed to this fact as indication they were capable of carrying out the service.

The dental profession opposes the proposed act on the grounds untrained personnel could endanger public health by fitting dentures over diseased gums.

The technicians countered that every person they fit would be required to have a certificate of oral health.

The technicians also said they could make dentures at a large saving to the public.

The special committee will consider the bill and make a recommendation to the legislature. It is expected the bill will be voted on in the current session.

The claim of the technicians

was labelled "popcock" and "fantastic to a ridiculous degree" today by executive secretary Dr. Russ Upton of the B.C. Dental Association.

He said there are 640 dentists and 200 "ethical" technicians (those who sell dentures through dentists) in B.C., while there are only 78 technicians in the society that presented the brief.

"How can 78 be selling more dentures than 840?" he asked. "I challenge them to back up that claim."

## Strike Ban Debate Unlikely

VICTORIA (CP)—No action will be taken this session by the B.C. legislature to ban strikes by utility company employees.

George Gregory (L-Victoria) gave notice of a motion Wednesday to amend the Labor Relations Act to prohibit such strikes and make conciliation board awards binding.

He said his move was necessary because the present electricians' strike could bring B.C. "on its knees" within 12 hours of a widespread power blackout.

Observers expect the House to prorogue before his latest motion comes up for discussion.

Mr. Gregory had no comment on a statement by Senator Sidney Smith, president of the B.C. Liberal Association, that the party endorses the principle of unions' security, opposes compulsory arbitration and seeks to "improve and accelerate conciliation procedure."

Sen. Smith said he read the Victoria MLA's opposition to party policy as an attempt to "emphasize the grave situation" and to "impel the government to intervene."

## Up to House, Martin Says

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Health Minister Eric Martin today said he has no control over legislation before the House concerning naturopaths and dental technicians.

He was commenting on protests from medical doctors and dentists against the two bills.

"The legislation is in the hands of the House," he said. "If I hadn't introduced them, private members would have."

The naturopaths' bill, giving naturopaths control over their own affairs is opposed by the B.C. College of Physicians and Surgeons. They ask the government to "take a second look" at it.

## SEEKS CHANGES

## Mine Gro Kiernan

B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines asked for further amendments to B.C. legislation.

A delegation visited Victoria today and in a meeting with Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan asked for "elimination of certain objectionable features" before the proposed legislation becomes law.

Chief among these is a requirement that the holder of a 21-year lease must do annual assessment work in addition to paying an annual rental fee.

At meetings earlier this week, the Chamber agreed the new bill is an improvement over mining legislation passed at the last session of the legislature.

It agreed particularly with the reaffirmation of the right of prospectors to hold claims indefinitely by doing \$100

## Teachers Hit Ban on Blacklisting

British Columbia teachers charged today the proposed Public School Act threatens their "freedom of speech."

The province's 12,000 teachers are being told by their leaders to "deluge" members of the legislature with letters and telegrams of protest against the bill, introduced in the legislature Monday.

A section of the bill, if it is approved, will make it illegal for the B.C. Teachers' Federation or any other group to blacklist a school district by declaring it an area in dispute.

Sixteen B.C. school districts are now blacklisted by teachers because of wage disputes. Effect of this is to cut off the district's supply of new teachers.



Fri., March 14, 1958

## SEEKS CHANGES

# Mine Group Meets Kiernan on Bill

B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines is seeking further amendments to British Columbia's mining legislation.

A delegation visited Victoria today and in a meeting with Mines Minister Kenneth Kiernan asked for "elimination of certain objectionable features" before the proposed legislation becomes law.

Chief among these is a requirement that the holder of a 21-year lease must do annual assessment work in addition to paying an annual rental fee.

At meetings earlier this week, the Chamber agreed the new bill is an improvement over mining legislation passed at the last session of the legislature.

It agreed particularly with the reaffirmation of the right of prospectors to hold claims indefinitely by doing \$100

assessment work or paying cash in lieu of it.

The new bill also eliminates the five-year retention lease and removes some of the discretionary powers of the minister of mines.

At the same time the Chamber particularly to the "excessive high rate" of the annual assessment which the new act sets on a 21 year lease.

## No Deal Made on University Lands

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said today the government has made no commitments on how the university endowment lands will be developed.

Mr. Williston said an offer has been made to the government by a real estate group for development of the lands, but he pointed out the fact the offer was publicized "doesn't give it any particular validity."

The offer was made by Atlas Finance and Realty Corporation Ltd. of Calgary.

## Forestry Estimates Pass House

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston got his estimates through the legislature Thursday after eight hours' wrangling.

The debate ran for four hours Tuesday without anything being approved. Another four hours was spent on the estimates Thursday.

Most of Thursday was taken up by debating the proposal of Swedish financier Axel Wenner-Gren to develop 40,000 square miles of B.C.

Opposition leader Robert M. Strachan led the attack by accusing the government of knowing what resources there were before signing an agreement of intent with Wenner-Gren interests.

Mr. Williston said Mr. Strachan did not know what he was talking about.

He said timber in the area was sparse and deeply burned.

Randolph Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) said the government should survey the area and put up everything found available to the highest bidder.

## Gov't Backs Down on Gas Station Act

VICTORIA — A flood of protests has forced the government to back down on its proposed rigid regulation of service station operating hours.

Instead, the government will amend the municipal act to give municipal councils more control over service stations. (The change does not apply to Vancouver, which regulates such matters on its own.)

Recommendations for the change were made to the legislature Thursday by the house committee on municipal matters, after four days of hearings.

Under present regulations in the act, councils simply may exempt service stations from regulated hours. Most municipalities have done this.

The new change provides for closing of gas stations at 6 p.m. This can be extended to 7 p.m. by councils between October and April, and to 9 p.m. between May and September.

But councils also may, by a two-thirds vote, issue permits to gas station operators exempting them from closing hours, or establishing other closing hours.

Originally, the proposed amendment said councils could permit gas stations to operate later than the set closing time, but only on a year-round, 24-hour basis.

This was attacked by oil companies and some station operators who maintained the demand for service should establish operating hours.

Some 250 telegrams of protest were received by the committee and members of the legislature.

## Teachers Hit Ban on Blacklisting

British Columbia teachers charged today the proposed Public School Act threatens their "freedom of speech."

The province's 12,000 teachers are being told by their leaders to "deluge" members of the legislature with letters and telegrams of protest against the bill, introduced in the legislature Monday.

A section of the bill, if it is approved, will make it illegal for the B.C. Teachers' Federation or any other group to blacklist a school district by declaring it an area in dispute.

Sixteen B.C. school districts are now blacklisted by teachers because of wage disputes. Effect of this is to cut off the district's supply of new teachers.

## RED LIGHT LEFT TURNS

VICTORIA (CP) — Left turns on red lights, upon entering one-way streets, will be permitted under amendments to the motor vehicle act introduced in the legislature Thursday night.

The new turning law is a companion to the year-old law permitting right turns on red light after coming to a full stop.

It will not become effective until it is signed by the Lieut. Governor at the end of the session.

## CCF 'Predicts' Election Win

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — The CCF will win the next provincial election, Ran Harding (CCF-Kaslo-Slocan) predicted in the Legislature Thursday.

He made the statement during a discussion of department of mines estimates of expenditure for the coming fiscal year.

## SLOAN FOREST PROBE COST ALMOST \$200,000

VICTORIA (CP) — It cost the government almost \$200,000 for the long inquiry into British Columbia's forest industry.

Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston, in answer to a question by Archie Gibbs (L-Oak Bay) said the total cost of the royal commission was \$173,719.

Fri., March 14, 1958

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Chairman Chokes Election Talk

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — MLAs so far this session — and there's not much time left — have been paying little attention to the March 31 federal election.

They've been making a minimum of political speeches, making as if they don't care who wins the march to Ottawa.

But — it was only a front! Thursday it became clear they've been bottling themselves up, bursting their political insides, churning up their political tensions, all of which, according to the psychiatrists, is not good for them.

\*\*\*  
CCF Mr. Harding of Kaslo-Slocan made a speech on mining Thursday.

"Mining in this province hasn't even been scratched yet," said Mr. Harding, an amateur miner himself.

It was at about this point he inadvertently said something about the next B.C. government.

The premier came to life, wanted to know what kind of government that would be, pray, if not Social Credit.

Why, Mr. Chairman, said Mr. Harding, the next B.C. government is going to be CCF and this set the premier to ho-ho-ho-ing!

Opposition leader Strachan, hearing the cry of the hustings in the Legislature, cried out to the premier:

"Anytime you're ready we will discuss elections."

Now, this promised some excitement, but chairman

Alex Matthew of Vancouver Centre said: "In the meantime, please, we're discussing Vote No. 261."

"I'd rather discuss elections," said Mr. Strachan, all of a sudden bored with estimates, now that politics and elections has been so boldly dragged in.

\*\*\*  
But Mr. Matthew was both prim and severe as he put a stop to this intriguing subject, telling Messrs. Strachan and Bennett they must shush their talk of elections.

Chairman Matthew had quite a time of it, keeping Mr. Bennett and Mr. Strachan on the track.

These two strayed off at the slightest temptation.

Mr. Strachan said the premier delights in calling the PGE the brightest jewel in the social credit crown.

He had, indeed, used that very phrase this week in the peace River country.

"Yes, and 5,000 people heard me," said the Premier.

No, said Mr. Strachan, only about 2,500.

No, said the Premier, 5,000.

"Let's discuss this vote (lands and forests) shall we?" asked chairman Matthew, and Messrs. Strachan and Bennett desisted momentarily.

## Socred MLA Hits Gov't On Iron Exploration

VICTORIA — A Social Credit MLA Thursday criticized the government's policy towards developing a basic steel industry in British Columbia.

William Asselstine (S.C. Atlin), former mines minister of B.C. in the Liberal government of the early 1940s, said the government regulations

would deter exploration for iron ore.

The government regulations state that half the iron ore in a claim comes under the control of the government.

"Why should they come to B.C. to explore for iron ore when they only get half of it and can go to Ontario or other provinces and get all of it?" said Mr. Asselstine.

"On this basis it will be some years before we prove up enough iron ore to support a steel mill."

Other criticism of government mining policies was voiced in the legislature Thursday.

Ran Harding (CCF, Kaslo-Slocan) said government taxation of iron ore in the ground was a deterrent to development.

The legislation imposing the tax intended to apply it only to iron ore holdings meant for export, he said, but the act would permit a government to apply it to all types of ore.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Illegal N Pick Trill

By JAMES K.

VICTORIA — MLAs believe that man cannot live

The first bill of the 1958 session passed third reading.

It took seven weeks from its introduction and first reading.

It was bill No. 1, brought into the House on opening day, Jan. 23, immediately after the Lieut-Governor had left, to prove that people's business comes before the crown's.

This bill, when it becomes law next week, upon the assent of the Lieut-Governor, will make picking of the trillium, native wild lily, illegal.

The trillium is defined in the new statute as "trillium means the plant trillium ovatum. Commonly known as western trillium or wake-robin."

There was no discussion, all MLAs agreeing it's a good idea to protect the trillium, along with the dogwood and the rhododendron. They apparently believe it's truer than ever in our rushing, complex world that our souls need freshening-up from time to time.

And how better to do it than to walk in the woods and gaze upon trilliums, rhododendrons and dogwood trees?

\*\*\*  
There was some discussion of the plight of deserted wives and children.

CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby took the deserted ladies' part.

He said he can't understand how it is that the deserting husband apparently needs much more money on which to live than his wife and children.

That's usually the case, said Mr. Dowding, and he said it's all wrong.

\*\*\*  
Opposition leader Strachan tried to get some information from education minister Peterson on Friday, but chairman Alex Matthew of Vancouver Centre said Mr. Strachan was out of order.

"Surely the minister can't remain silent forever," said Mr. Strachan.

"That's more than we can except from you," said the attorney-general to Mr. Strachan.

\*\*\*  
The legal jargon in our statute books is bewildering to anyone not learned in the law, and even the lawyers often argue about the true meaning of our laws.

Here's one section in a bill discussed in the legislature Friday: "No proceeding which has been duly stamped for the purposes for which it has been used shall be considered as stamped for any other purpose."

Now, that could mean anything or it could mean nothing. Certainly, it will take a lawyer to figure it out.



## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Illegal Now to Pick Trilliums

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA — MLAs on Friday showed they believe that man cannot live by bread alone.

The first bill of the 1958 session passed third reading.

It took seven weeks from its introduction and first reading.

It was bill No. 1, brought into the House on opening day, Jan. 23, immediately after the Lieut-Governor had left, to prove that people's business comes before the crown's.

This bill, when it becomes law next week, upon the assent of the Lieut-Governor, will make picking of the trillium, native wild lily, illegal.

The trillium is defined in the new statute as "trillium means the plant trillium ovatum. Commonly known as western trillium or wake-robin."

There was no discussion, all MLAs agreeing it's a good idea to protect the trillium, along with the dogwood and the rhododendron. They apparently believe it's truer than ever in our rushing, complex world that our souls need freshening-up from time to time.

And how better to do it than to walk in the woods and gaze upon trilliums, rhododendrons and dogwood trees?

\*\*\*

There was some discussion of the plight of deserted wives and children.

CCF Mr. Dowding of Burraby took the deserted ladies' part.

He said he can't understand how it is that the deserting husband apparently needs much more money on which to live than his wife and children.

That's usually the case, said Mr. Dowding, and he said it's all wrong.

\*\*\*

Opposition leader Strachan tried to get some information from education minister Peterson on Friday, but chairman Alex Matthew of Vancouver Centre said Mr. Strachan was out of order.

"Surely the minister can't remain silent forever," said Mr. Strachan.

"That's more than we can expect from you," said the attorney-general to Mr. Strachan.

\*\*\*

The legal jargon in our statute books is bewildering to anyone not learned in the law, and even the lawyers often argue about the true meaning of our laws.

Here's one section in a bill discussed in the legislature Friday: "No proceeding which has been duly stamped for the purposes for which it has been used shall be considered as stamped for any other purpose."

Now, that could mean anything or it could mean nothing. Certainly, it will take a lawyer to figure it out.

## Liberal Mr. Gregory of

Victoria hoped attorney-general Bonner will amend a certain act next session—"If he's still with us."

Mr. Gregory didn't smile when he said that, nor did the A.G. when he heard it.

\*\*\*

A lot of bits and pieces were tidied up Friday, in preparation for the mad dash towards prorogation which will start Monday.

In time-honored legislative fashion, the government has left the most important bills to the last few days.

The new public schools act has so far been given only first reading, and the session has less than a week to go.

There's going to be some hot words flying around the house about the new act.

Many of the teachers are fuming and raging about it. They don't like the gov-

ernment clipping their wings to the extent that it's going to be illegal to "black-list" a school district—to declare a certain school district a no-agreement district, and to advise teachers not to apply for, or accept positions in such districts until the teachers get the salaries they want.

\*\*\*

There are quite a few teachers in the house; provincial secretary Wesley Black; lands and forests minister Ray Williston; Solicitor Mr. Sommers of Rossland-Trail, Solicitor Mr. Campbell of Comox, and CCF Mr. Harding of Kaslo-Slocan.

It'll be interesting to see what they say about the complaints from their fellow teachers and whether they are of the opinion teachers are pretty well off in this province.

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1958

# 3 City Students Defend Teen-Agers

## Little Drinking, No Drug Addiction, Probers Informed

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Three Vancouver high school students Friday appeared before the legislature committee probing juvenile delinquency.

The three, all King Edward High School seniors, were Gary Harkness, editor of the school paper; Gordon Cary, active in school sports, and John Thompson, last year's president of the student body.

They told the committee:

Only a few high school students drink.

They know of no case of drug addiction.

The car to a student today is what a bicycle used to be.

## GRANVILLE ROWS

Disturbances such as those that often occur at Granville and Smith in Vancouver are caused by working youths who like to brag.

Of King Ed's 1,500 students only 30 have been in trouble with police. Liquor played a part in half these cases.

Lack of parental guidance, and influence of reading material and movies was blamed for some teen-agers being publicly vulgar to girls.

Also appearing before the committee was Ian Barclay, representing the western regional committee of the Boys' Clubs of Canada. The Boys' Clubs are a member of Vancouver Community Chest.

## EMPHASIZE "DECENCY"

In his brief, Mr. Barclay called for more emphasis on "juvenile decency," instead of delinquency.

More attention should be given to preventive measures to combat delinquency, he said, instead of testing the correctional aspect.

The Boys' Clubs try to use this approach. They have an "open door" policy whereby no boys are turned away.

By providing interesting things to do, the Boys' Clubs brief stated, youths are directed away from delinquency.

## BRED BY BOREDOM

They have wholesome and constructive interests.

"It is our belief that boredom breeds delinquency," the brief said.

The committee concluded seven weeks of hearings Friday and will meet next week to decide on what recommendations to make to the legislature.

Committee chairman John Tisdalle (SC-Saanich) told members no "hasty" decisions could be reached because of the volume of material submitted.

It is possible, he said, that a continuing study may have to be made after the house session ends.

Sat., March 15, 1958

## Forestry, Mining Bills Approved

CCF Leader Supports Forest  
Legislation With 'Reservation'

By ALEX YOUNG  
Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Legislation governing two of British Columbia's most important industries—forestry and mining—was given approval in principle in the legislature Friday with little opposition.

The new forestry legislation, which limits the tenure of sustained yield units to 21 years in private hands, was given second reading after a short debate.

Tony Gargrave (CCF—MacKenzie) complained it still amounted to a "slicing up of our resources" like forest management licences.

"If our forest policy was sound," he said, "we wouldn't need such a distinguished person as Mr. Sloan (former chief justice Gordon Sloan) to deal with the question."

### GOV'T 'REPENTED'

Opposition leader Robert Strachan said the CCF was supporting the new forestry legislation because it was an "improvement" over previous legislation, although the opposition held "some reservations."

The mining legislation was unanimously approved after only 15 minutes of debate.

The CCF said the relaxation of the government's rigid control over mining tenures indicated the government had "repented from the very wide powers they gave themselves previously."

The Mineral Act amendment retains the new leasing system of mining operations, but relaxes the government's control over the system.

### BORROWING BOOSTS

The Legislature also gave approval to increases totalling \$90,000,000 in the borrowing powers of three government enterprises.

Bills okaying an increase of \$40,000,000 in the B.C. power commission's borrowing limit (to \$250,000,000), and an increase of the Pacific Great Eastern railway's borrowing power by \$30,000,000 (to \$110,000,000) were given third and final reading, with little opposition.

A third bill, to boost the borrowing power of the B.C. toll highways and bridges authority to \$80,000,000 from \$60,000,000 was given second reading, approval in principle.

## Naturopaths Bill Okayed

VICTORIA—The bill giving naturopaths self government was approved in principle in the Legislature Friday in just 80 seconds.

Not a word of opposition was spoken.

In the 80 seconds Health Minister Eric Martin said the bill re-defined the status of naturopaths and cleared up doubts about the legality of the profession.



MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1958

## Britannia Owners 'Thumbing Noses'

Robinson Says Mine Operators  
'Ducked Out' on Committee

VICTORIA—Owners of the Britannia copper mine today were accused of "thumbing their noses" at a legislative committee probing the mine's closure.

"They have ducked out to Salt Lake City," charged Donald Robinson (SC-Lillooet), in reference to officials of the Howe Sound company, parent firm of Britannia Mining and Smelting. The mine is in his riding.

### COMMITTEE 'LICKED'

Chairman of the labor committee, Bert Price, Socred MLA for Vancouver-Burrard, said it appeared the committee was "licked" insofar as making the company act was concerned.

He rejected recommendations by the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union that the government expropriate the mine so the 800 unemployed workers in the town could go back to work.

### NO ANSWERS

Mr. Robinson's criticism was in reference to Thursday's appearance before the committee of A. G. Kirkland, general manager of mines for the Salt Lake city-based Howe Sound Company.

Mr. Kirkland was unable to give the committee any answers to questions about what the company could do to resume operations.

Mr. Price told the committee today he wired Mr. Kirkland Thursday night at Britannia with the suggestion that negotiations be reopened with the union on the basis of tying wages to the price of copper.

Before sending the wire, he said, he had phoned four times to Britannia to make the suggestion verbally. He was told Mr. Kirkland was "in conference."

Mr. Kirkland answered Saturday night, stating he would be happy to take the matter up with his directors, if Mr. Price could state "what amounts you have in mind."

## Public Gains Something

Probably the best thing about the new school act presented to the legislature last week is the promise it holds out for more peaceful settling of teacher salary scales. The public will applaud that the whole procedure has been tightened up.

Trustees will especially welcome the setting of the Dec. 31 deadline for completion of arbitration. This will give them a decent interval to get their budgets to Victoria by Feb. 15. At times prolonged salary negotiations have delayed budgets until there were only minutes to spare.

Ban on blacklisting of school district by the teachers, and compulsory negotiations on the part of the school boards are both forward steps.

There will be some questions raised, however, about the usefulness of the conciliation process. What is the point of spending the time and money on two conciliators when compulsory, binding arbitration lies ahead? Is it likely that either side will empower a conciliator to concede

points that might be gained in arbitration?

The financial arrangements made can not be adequately assessed until local boards have a chance to turn them into dollars and cents. The government estimates that the new act will permit 35 per cent of B.C.'s school boards to cut their tax levels. But what about the other 65 per cent? Do they hold the line, or do they raise their rates?

Establishing the current years as the "base year" for calculating government grants, rather than some year in the past (it has been 1955 for the past three years) should make the grants more realistic.

But it remains to be proven that the increased salary grants and the total assumption by Victoria of approved-cost increases over the 1955 level will balance the extra two mills the school boards must put up.

Boards throughout the province are totting up the figures now. The public awaits their findings and will then pass judgment.

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# 'Dying Hour' Bills Pile Up in House

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—It's the same old story this session; the government is rushing in the House bags of legislation in the session's dying hours.

As cabinet ministers brought in new legislation Monday, with prorogation due Thursday, there were cries from CCF benches, "the same old battering ram," and "steam-roller."

Attorney-General Bonner stood up and said: "Mr. speaker, I have the honor to present a message from His Honor the lieutenant-governor," which prompted Opposition Leader Strachan to say to him: "where you been the last eight weeks?"

Which meant that Mr. Strachan thinks the government is asleep when it comes to bringing in its legislation.

If Mr. Strachan were the Government he would, of course, do the same; it is a time-honored custom.

\*\*\*

It was the 17th of Ireland Monday but it was largely ignored in the house. The premier suddenly remembered it, said: "This is St. Patrick's Day, and I'm glad to see the House in such good mood."

Time was, in the legislature, when St. Patrick's Day was a day of great celebration, when Irish-born John Hart was premier.

Only true Irishman now in the House is Socred Mr. Massey of Delta, native of County Wexford.

\*\*\*

Once again Monday, the premier gave in to the Opposition.

A certain phrase in a government bill displeased the Opposition.

After a little argument, the premier capitulated.

He had his attorney-general move an amendment, to please the Opposition, and Liberal Mr. Gregory of Victoria seconded it — a nice, though highly unusual, show of legislative co-operation.

Never before has the premier been so conciliatory. This may be all very well, but if the government's going to give in to every Opposition whim, caprice

and suggestion, it might as well resign forthwith and let the Opposition take over the government.

A government that gives in too much can soon become a weak government—and you know what the people do with weak governments.

\*\*\*

School students spend hours in the public galleries, often are bored.

Monday, however, they thoroughly enjoyed a debate on bingo.

They were delighted when CCF Mr. Dowding of Burnaby said of the minister of finance: "He's liable to be taxing boys and girls for playing hop-scotch."

\*\*\*

Monday night there was another argument about Woodlands School for mentally retarded children.

Provincial Secretary Black said he blames the Opposition for all the row about Woodlands; the Opposition, said Mr. Black, has been playing politics.

As is the habit of many cabinet ministers, Mr. Black blamed the government prior to 1952 for any troubles in the mental hospitals: "We tried to pick up a backlog of procrastination."

He admitted there are empty beds, said trained

personnel cannot be obtained to adequately staff the hospitals.

CCF Mr. Harding of Kaslo-Slocan said to Mr. Black: "You don't save money by pinching and squeezing in some of these important treatment centres."

Mr. Black replied he could staff the institutions, but he's not interested in hiring just bodies. He wants skills, and he can't find them.

This kind of argument can go on endlessly in the Legislature, with one side never convincing the other.

\*\*\*

Sitting next to Provincial Secretary Black was his deputy, R. A. Pennington.

Opposition Leader Strachan noted Mr. Pennington will soon retire and wished him well.

CCF Mr. Turner of Vancouver East said Mr. Pennington is in the top ranks of those in the legislative buildings who have shown MLAs the ropes.

Mr. Black also paid tribute to Mr. Pennington, said he has, served this province wisely and well.

## Bennett Says Store Hours Act 'Trial'

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Premier Bennett admitted in the Legislature Monday that his government's new shops regulations are a "trial and error" approach to the problem of regulating stores.

"This problem will be with us not only next year but for 50 years and 100 years," he told the house in supporting third and final reading of the new municipal act.

"You can never satisfy everybody," he said. "There is no easy solution. The storm broke last year when we tried to regulate it on a province wide basis."

"They said we were trying to dictate to local government. Now they say the whole province should have the same regulations. We believe local option. As we provide in this new act, is an improvement."

Opposition members said the new shops regulations, which virtually give local municipalities full control of shops and gas station hours, was "passing the buck" to municipalities and was "inviting a mad competition for business" between contiguous municipalities.

## MLA CHARGES

# Hospitals Failing in Mental Cure

VICTORIA (CP) — British Columbia's mental institutions are turning out cures but are beginning to lose ground, the legislature was told Monday night.

Randolph Harding (CCF—Kaslo-Slocan), in accusing the government of staff cuts, asked Provincial Secretary Wesley Black how he expected to keep up efficiency of the institutions "when you have more patients and less staff."

The claims were made during the debate on estimated expenditures for Mr. Black's department in the coming fiscal year. His \$15,000,000-plus estimate was approved after about three hours.

Tues., Mar

No  
Su

R  
D

VIC  
naturop  
despite

LEGI  
GETS

By S

VICT  
Bennett  
the cur  
British  
this we  
He g  
Monday  
holding  
the hou  
Wednes  
The  
covered  
the long  
It exten

## Credit Bill Re

By Sun Sta

VICTORIA—  
lish a reserve f  
protect Credit  
economic reces  
second reading  
lature Monday

The bill pro  
lishment of a  
to administer t

The fund wi  
an annual  
Credit Unions  
their share-c  
years.

It is expecte  
ultimately rea

The purpose  
be to preven  
Credit Union  
bers in the  
economic disc  
an industrial



Tues., Mar. 18, 1958

# Court to Rule on Sunday Sport Law

## Naturopath Bill Survives Attack

Rides Towards Final Approval Despite Liberal's Opposition

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA—The government Monday pushed its naturopath bill towards final approval in the Legislature despite small but vocal opposition.

### LEGISLATURE GETS HURRY-UP

By Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — Premier Bennett is determined to end the current session of the British Columbia legislature this week.

He gave notice of motion Monday that will permit holding of three sittings of the house per day, starting Wednesday.

The present session has covered a period of 54 days, the longest since 1951, when it extended over 58 days.

### VICTORIA

## Health Plan Legislation Prepared

VICTORIA — Legislation to clear the way for British Columbia to enter a national health insurance plan was presented to the Legislature Monday by Health Minister Eric Martin.

The bill will not become law during the present session of the House but will go into effect on cabinet proclamation when B.C. has concluded an agreement with the federal government for sharing of costs of the plan.

Main feature of the bill is that B.C. will be able to provide insurance services beyond those covered in any national plan, if the B.C. government so decides.

Health department officials said this provision was necessary because B.C. still doesn't know on what specific basis Ottawa will share the costs of hospital insurance for chronic patients.

Strongest language of protest came from George Gregory (Lib-Victoria), and Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook).

"We should be very careful before we turn them (naturopaths) loose on the people of British Columbia," said Mr. Gregory.

"One of these days we are going to get a bill okaying medicine men and witch doctors," said Mr. Nimsick.

They were opposing a bill of health minister Eric Martin that will remove government supervision of naturopaths and allow the practitioners to can join their ranks.

The bill we before the house Monday for clause-by-clause scrutiny.

Mr. Gregory claimed the bill would give naturopaths every right doctors hold ("they can't do surgery," Mr. Martin said), but the right to call themselves doctors.

And even there, he said, naturopaths "are going around calling themselves doctors, but I don't see the attorney-general or health minister doing anything about this breach of the law."

## Application To Be Made In Two Weeks

Corporation counsel Russell Baker said today he will apply within two weeks for a court ruling on the validity of Vancouver's new Sunday sport law.

He said he expects the case will be heard by the B.C. Court of Appeal about the end of April.

### AMENDMENT PASSES

His announcement came after an amendment to Vancouver's charter went through third and final reading in the Legislature Thursday.

The court will be asked to judge the legality of the charter amendment designed to permit Sunday sports in Vancouver, Mr. Baker said.

### 3 LAWYERS

He will present the case for the city. Lawyers Bob McMaster will appear for the Lord's Day Alliance and Senator J. W. deB. Farris will appear for the Vancouver Mounties ball club.

The amending bill will receive royal assent when Lieutenant Governor Frank Ross prorogues the legislature later this week, probably Thursday.

It will become law on royal assent, except for the Sunday sports section.

If the court rules in its favor, then Vancouver will be able to hold commercial Sunday sports, legally, between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

A CCF bill introduced by Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) that would have put legal Sunday sports on a provincial basis earlier in the session went down to defeat.

## Credit Union Bill Read

By Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA—A bill to establish a reserve fund that would protect Credit Unions hit by economic recession was given second reading in the legislature Monday.

The bill provides for establishment of a provincial board to administer the reserve fund.

The fund will be built up by an annual assessment on Credit Unions of one-fifth of their share capital for five years.

It is expected the fund will ultimately reach \$500,000.

The purpose of the fund will be to prevent a "run" on Credit Union funds by members in the event of an economic dislocation involving an industrial Credit Union.

## SPECIAL MEET ON BRITANNIA

By Sun Staff Reporter  
VICTORIA — A special meeting of the legislative labor committee will be called to deal with the Howe Sound Company's failure to respond to appeals for co-operation in the committee's probe of the Britannia mine closure.

"I am very disappointed and discouraged," said Mr. Price. "But we will keep trying to get negotiations going between the union, which is willing, and the company, in hopes some arrangement may be reached whereby the mine can re-open."

## 2 Amendments by Opposition Passed

VICTORIA (CP)—The opposition forced two amendments in the legislature during the early part of the Monday afternoon sitting.

### New Election Act Called For

VICTORIA (CP)—It's time for revamping of British Columbia's Election Act, and for redistribution of seats in the legislature, the House was told Monday night.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) said the redistribution should be done by a member of the judiciary to ensure impartiality.

One amendment removed from the minister of finance, Premier Bennett, the power to determine what constituted a bingo contest for the purpose of taxation.

A second amendment deleted a section of a technical act dealing with gasoline taxes.

The section dealt with the seizure of automobiles for using purple-untaxed-gasoline and said that if the automobile was damaged while in custody the owner could not claim against the province or the person who seized it.

## LEFT-HAND TURNS ON 2-WAY STREETS LEGAL

Some left turns against red lights on to one-way streets will become legal in Vancouver Thursday.

The turns will be permitted only from the left-hand lane of a one-way street, or from the lane next to the centre line of a two-way street.

The amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act was passed today. It provides that motorists must come to a full stop before turning left on a red light.

## SCHOOL BILL READ

# Teachers Reject Gov't Demand to End Blacklist

B.C. teachers today refused to bow to a government demand to stop blacklisting school districts in wage disputes.

Education Minister Les Peterson made the demand in the legislature Tuesday during the second reading of the government's new Public Schools Act.

Mr. Peterson said he had removed an amendment that would have prohibited the federation from blacklisting school boards that refuse to pay salaries acceptable to teachers.

He said instead the government would withhold proclaiming a section in the new act that states all teachers must be members of the federation. The section was in the old act.

The proclamation won't be made until the federation withdraws its blacklist against 26 of the 102 school districts in the province, Mr. Peterson said.

(The Department of Education and the B.C. Teachers' Federation agree that 26 districts are blacklisted. However, the B.C. School Trustees' Association claims 28 are blacklisted.)

The BCTF promptly charged the government with "holding a club over our heads" by withholding the proclamation.

Charles Ovans, BCTF general secretary, said the blacklist will stand at least until the federation's annual meeting in Vancouver April 6.

He said he expected the federation's membership to back up the executive and continue the blacklist.

"The teachers are going to be annoyed and are going to

Please Turn to Page Two See: "Teachers"

# Teachers Reject Gov't Demand

Continued from Page 1

wonder why the department (of education) is hitting at them instead of at the trustees," he said.

"If the government doesn't like the salary situation why doesn't it hit at the party which caused it?"

Mr. Peterson admitted he had withdrawn the amendment actually outlawing blacklisting under a deluge of protests from teachers.

"However, if the teachers' federation is going to utilize this compulsory membership to deprive school districts of teachers by declaring certain districts in dispute, then it becomes necessary for the government to discourage this procedure," he said.

"I feel I have a responsibility not only to teachers and trustees but I have a moral responsibility first to see that schools are open and operated by qualified teachers.

"I have a moral responsibility to the children of this province—to see that they are not denied instruction."

Mr. Peterson said he had failed in attempts to get the federation to voluntarily lift its blacklist.

He also characterized its compulsory membership—which is being withdrawn—as a closed guild shop.

Mr. Ovans said compulsory membership shouldn't be regarded as a closed guild shop. "It was given to us so we could enforce our professional code of ethics in the same way as other professions govern the ethical conduct of their members," he explained.

"We have no say over who will or will not be admitted to our membership."

He said membership was

automatic after a teacher was certified by the department of education and was employed by a school board.

President Lorne C. Aggett of the B.C. School Trustees' Association said it welcomed "anything the government does" to stop blacklisting by teachers.

"We're not applauding the fact that the government intends to hold up the 'closed shop' provision," he said.

"We're merely applauding the fact that the government is doing something to stop the blacklisting."

Mr. Aggett said the BCSTA is prepared to meet with the BCTF to iron out their difficulties.

He also said if the BCTF stops "blacklisting" the BCSTA will stop "pinklisting."

Under pinklisting, a counter-move against blacklisting, teachers who take part in the blacklisting one school district are refused work in all other school districts.

"However we must have an assurance that such practices (blacklisting) will not be renewed in future years," Mr. Aggett said.

"If teachers disagree with any salary settlement—reached either by conciliation or arbitration—the courts of the land are the proper places to solve these matters without jeopardizing the education of our children."

The blacklisted districts have imposed fixed salaries on teachers under a never-before-used section of the Public Schools Act.

The BCTF wants them to re-open negotiations and allow wage increases of approximately 12 per cent.

This is the average increase granted by the districts that have settled by negotiation.

# House Clears Way For Prorogation

## Legislature to Wind Up Session By Thursday at Latest

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — The British Columbia legislature Tuesday cleared the decks for prorogation.

Premier Bennett says it's possible the legislature will prorogue Thursday.

Only a few items remain unfinished.

Major pieces of legislation received third and final reading Tuesday, including new forestry and mining laws.

Main changes in the Forest Act:

The name "tree farm licence" replaces "forest management licence"; licences limited to 21 years; "black-malling" in timber sales outlawed.

The Mineral Act amendment dealt mainly with tenure right. Future renewable leases will be granted on claims, for period of 21 years. This replaces previous short-term leases strongly opposed by mining interests.

The 1958 session started on Jan. 23 and has been the longest since 1951.

# Municipal Act Changed In 345 Ways

VICTORIA — Amendments to the municipal act will be made in the 1959 session of the British Columbia Legislature, if necessary.

Municipal affairs minister W. D. Black told the legislature this Tuesday as third and final reading was given to a bill amending the municipal act passed last year.

There were 345 amendments to last year's 899-section act.

George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria) said Mr. Black should be awarded a "leather medal" because of all the amendments.

Final reading was given with little discussion.

Arthur Turner (CCF-Vancouver East) proposed two amendments to the bill that would have restricted local municipal control over shops and service station hours.

They were rejected by the government on the grounds the bill had been approved by the legislature's municipal matters committee, only after hearing many representations.

## Opposition Waits

VICTORIA (CP)—A total of 50 questions still were unanswered on the order papers Tuesday — with only one of two days left in this sitting of the Legislature.

# Bold Go Stuns O

By JAMES

VICTORIA—I have a was the premier so concili-

Time after time he has given in to the Opposition, which may be all very well.

But it could add up to one great weakness. It could be taken as a sign his government is afraid, willing to bow before every breeze that blows, in the hope of pleasing everyone, and only succeeding, of course, in pleasing no one.

Tuesday, in the dying hours of the session, the government took a firm stand in an effort to break the impasse reached by teachers and school boards over salaries.

There was no pussyfooting here. The government didn't sit on the fence, or attempt to ride two horses at once.

On this stand it will sink or swim, but it must believe it has the bulk of public opinion behind it. I feel it has.

\*\*\*

It was a tense, dramatic day, Tuesday. Rumors swept the corridors that the government would back down, would take out of the new Public Schools Act the "no-blacklisting" clause which had so inflamed the teachers.

Independent observers said that if that happened it would brand the government as weak.

It would prove it was bowing to a highly-organized, powerful pressure group, with an income from teachers' salaries of probably more than \$250,000 a year.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson rose to move second reading of the new Schools Act.

The House hung on his every word.

He announced the "no-blacklist" clause would be deleted.

CCFers, reveling in what they thought was the government's weakness, pounded their desks.

Mr. Peterson, as he went on, became somewhat agitated.

Suddenly everyone knew he had something up his sleeve, a bomb, as it turned out.

Mr. Peterson spoke like a man who had to say something he hoped he wouldn't have to say.

Until the teachers' federation sorts itself out, said the minister, there'll be no "closed-shop" clause in the new Schools Act.

In other words, a teacher may now be employed without being a member of the teachers' federation; teachers may now pull out of the federation and still teach.



## Bold Gov't Stand Stuns Opposition

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—I have said several times that never was the premier so conciliatory as during this session.

Time after time he has given in to the Opposition, which may be all very well.

But it could add up to one great weakness. It could be taken as a sign his government is afraid, willing to bow before every breeze that blows, in the hope of pleasing everyone, and only succeeding, of course, in pleasing no one.

Tuesday, in the dying hours of the session, the government took a firm stand in an effort to break the impasse reached by teachers and school boards over salaries.

There was no pussyfooting here. The government didn't sit on the fence, or attempt to ride two horses at once.

On this stand it will sink or swim, but it must believe it has the bulk of public opinion behind it. I feel it has.

\*\*\*

It was a tense, dramatic day, Tuesday. Rumors swept the corridors that the government would back down, would take out of the new Public Schools Act the "no-blacklisting" clause which had so inflamed the teachers.

Independent observers said that if that happened it would brand the government as weak.

It would prove it was bowing to a highly-organized, powerful pressure group, with an income from teachers' salaries of probably more than \$250,000 a year.

Education Minister Leslie Peterson rose to move second reading of the new Schools Act.

The House hung on his every word.

He announced the "no-blacklist" cause would be deleted.

CCFers, reveling in what they thought was the government's weakness, pounded their desks.

Mr. Peterson, as he went on, became somewhat agitated.

Suddenly everyone knew he had something up his sleeve, a bomb, as it turned out.

Mr. Peterson spoke like a man who had to say something he hoped he wouldn't have to say.

Until the teachers' federation sorts itself out, said the minister, there'll be no "closed-shop" clause in the new Schools Act.

In other words, a teacher may now be employed without being a member of the teachers' federation; teachers may now pull out of the federation and still teach.

Mr. Peterson spoke quietly, but it was easy to see that while he was boiling mad at the teachers, he was regretful that the government, in doing its duty by the public, would have to clip the teachers' wings.

The straw that broke the camel's back, presumably, was a B.C. teachers' advertisement in British papers, advising British teachers of "no-agreement" areas in B.C.

It advised them not to accept positions in such areas, where, the teachers say, teachers' pay isn't high enough.

"Union busting," said Opposition Leader Strachan, when hit by the full import of what Mr. Peterson had said.

Mr. Strachan has seldom been so surprised or non-plussed.

The government's drastic move to curb the teachers could well mean the end of their union, and the scrapping of rights won by them after years of hard fighting.

All because they threatened the well being of the society which educated them, gives them their living and entrusts to them what should be the province's most valuable, most cherished possession—youth.

\*\*\*

Near midnight Tuesday the House burst into uproar. Mr. Strachan tried once more to change the 1958 Bennett budget.

The premier would have none of Mr. Strachan's idea, and took the opportunity to make a whoop-de-la political speech.

He talked more than half an hour, waving his arms about, voice to the rafters, eyes on the galleries.

He put on a fine show.

He needed the opposition and had them jumping around and shouting at him.

He enjoyed himself thoroughly.

Mr. Strachan said he had expected the premier to roar and shout like a bird, trying to create dust to throw in the public's eyes in the hope they wouldn't see the government's signs.

Mr. Strachan grew sad, said what he called the cold hard facts are more important to the government than the cold, hungry hands of the little children of this province.

## House Adopts Vote For \$100 Millions

VICTORIA (CP)—The government pushed through votes worth almost \$100,000,000 Tuesday in a sitting that lasted until early today—the longest of the session and just short of five hours.

Estimates approved included \$68,000,000 for capital expenditure out of income, \$2,200,000 for the recreation and conservation department, \$4,460,000 for the public works department and \$320,000 for the public utilities commission.

The house also approved \$20,700,000 in supplementary expenditures for the fiscal year ending March 31.

Mr. Peterson said the government does not plan to proclaim a part of the public schools act preserving a "closed shop" for the B.C. teachers' federation. This weakens the Federation's power.

He said that part of the act would be held in abeyance until the government is satisfied teachers are no longer "blacklisting" areas where no

new wage agreement had been reached.

The recreation and conservation branch took almost twice as long. Leo Nimsick (CCF-Cranbrook) spoke for about 30 minutes on the need for more recreational facilities in B.C. and the need for more game conservation work.

Recreation and Conservation Minister Earle Westwood brought roars of laughter from the house but drew the wrath of Mr. Nimsick when he said it appeared the CCF member was trying "to save the game by shooting the bull."

He was forced to withdraw his remark.

## MLA Hits Real Estate Control Bill

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — A CCF MLA told the legislature Tuesday that real estate men should not be given the power to police their own trade.

Gordon Dowding (CCF-Burnaby) made the remarks during debate on approval in principle of an amendment to the real estate act that provides for a 15-man real estate council to oversee the real estate business in British Columbia.

He said the bill gives the council the power to recommend licensing or non-licensing of applicants for licenses as real estate salesmen or agents.

The superintendent of insurance should have the sole right of licensing, he said.

George Gregory (Lib.-Victoria) said he felt the bill would raise the standards of real estate men on a professional basis. It was a "forward step," he said.

## BILL PASSES, ERROR AND ALL

VICTORIA — "Shall the typographical error pass?" asked the legislature's chairman after Gordon Dowding, CCF-Burnaby, noted Tuesday the word "automobile" was misspelled in one bill. Lawmakers passed the bill, with the spelling error.



# House Winding Up 57-Day Session

Longest Since 1951 With 74 Bills  
To Receive Royal Assent

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — Lieutenant-Governor Frank M. Ross closed the second session of British Columbia's 25th Parliament today.

He gave royal assent to 74 bills approved during the eight-week gathering of B.C. lawmakers.

It was the longest session since 1951, when the house sat over a span of 58 days.

This year the legislature covered a period of 57 days, from its Jan. 23 opening.

## SIX "MAJOR" BILLS

Of all the bills, only six were of major importance.

A new 21-year limit to forest management licences (now to be known as tree farm licences) was introduced in the forest act, as a result of a searching, two-year inquiry into the forest industries of the province by former chief justice Gordon Sloan.

His proposal to outlaw "blackmailing" in timber sales also was adopted in the legislation.

A similar 21-year limit to mining claim leases was introduced, in a "second look" amendment to the mineral act after last year's much disputed elimination of perpetual crown grants of claims.

The Public Schools Act, contrary to expectations, provided more controversy than either the forest or mining legislation.

It did not receive House approval until Wednesday night, and only after strenuous opposition complaints against measures proposed by the government to end strife between teachers and school trustees over wages.

## MUNICIPAL ACT CARVED

More than 340 amendments were approved to the 1957 municipal act, the most important of which was the granting to municipalities of local powers to set shops and gas station regulations.

This was another "second look" compromise, following pressures exerted by not only shop owners but municipalities themselves.

The motor vehicle act, the

brand new one okayed last year, also got amended.

The chief amendment was provision for left turns on red lights into one-way streets.

This will take effect, for all practical purposes, Friday.

## SUNDAY SPORTS

For Vancouver, possibly the most interesting legislation was approval of an amendment to the Vancouver charter allowing commercial sports between 1:30 and 6 p.m. on Sundays.

## 730 LESS

# Ministers Admit Cuts In Staff

By Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—Staff reductions in four government departments were admitted in the Legislature Wednesday.

In reply to questions, four cabinet ministers showed reduction of total staffs in their departments of 730, between July 31 and Dec. 31 last year. (The government has been under censure for staff cuts in essential services.)

Health and Welfare Minister Eric Martin said total staff in his department dropped by 108 between those dates.

Premier Bennett said the finance department staff dropped from 782 to 732.

Works Minister W. N. Chant said staff in his department fell from 749 to 658, and Lands and Forests Minister Ray Williston said staff in his department at July 31 was 2,702 compared with 2,220 at Dec. 31.

Provincial Secretary W. D. Black reported the 1957 turnover rate in the civil service was 27.84 per cent. This compared with 28.45 per cent in 1956.

# ELECTION TOUR FOR SOCREDS

VICTORIA — Premier W. A. C. Bennett announced today his Social Credit government will participate in the federal election campaign.

Mr. Bennett said that beginning today, his cabinet ministers will speak in all 22 British Columbia ridings up to election time March 31.

# Payments to City Listed at \$34 Million

VICTORIA — Vancouver city and "agencies" of the city received a total of \$33,950,589 from the provincial government during 1957, Premier Bennett reported Wednesday.

He made the statement in answer to a question placed on the order paper by Bert Price (SC-Vancouver Burrard).

Mr. Price asked only what was the total amount of combined payments made by the province to the city for each of several years.

Mr. Bennett, as finance minister, replied:

Combined payments to the city of Vancouver and agencies: 1951, \$19,474,287.17; 1952, \$21,189,116.11; 1953, \$22,558,961.30; 1954, \$22,459,806.75; 1955, \$27,960,687.25; 1956, \$29,831,058.50; 1957, \$33,950,589. Figures for 1958 weren't available, he said.

# Socred Bolts on School Bill

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—A Social Credit MLA today voted against the government's law to curb blacklisting by teachers of school districts with which they are in dispute.

Dan Campbell (SC, Comox), himself a high school teacher, stood with the Opposition in opposing the measure after telling the legislature he was "unhappy" about the bill.

The vote was on a CCF amendment to a motion for third and final reading of the new Schools Act.

Gordon Dowding (CCF, Burnaby) proposed the motion, which asked the House to reconsider the section of the bill diluting teachers' bargaining powers.

The motion was defeated at 12:05 a.m. by a vote of 31-14, and third and final reading was given the whole new Public Schools Act.

The bill declares that the government will withhold a requirement for compulsory membership in the B.C. Teachers' Federation of all B.C. teachers until the federation agree to stop blacklisting.

The federation has ruled that school districts that won't negotiate on wages are "out of bounds" to teachers, other than those currently working in the districts.

# 15 Forest Licenses By Sommers

VICTORIA — Fifteen forest management licence applications made between 1952 and 1957 were made through C. D. Schultz and Co., forestry consultants.

Lands and Forest Minister Ray Williston reported this to the Legislature Wednesday in reply to questions asked by George Gregory (Lib-Victoria).

The firm and its head, Charles D. Schultz, have been committed for trial on charges of conspiring to obtain licences by bribing former lands and forests ministers Sommers.

Of the 15 applications represented to the government by the company, only three were successful.

They were FML No. 17, granted Evans Products Limited; FML No. 19, granted the Tahsis Company Ltd., and FML No. 22, B.C. Forest Products Ltd.

B.C. Forest Products also is under bribe conspiracy charges and has been committed for trial.

Licence applications reserved by the department, Mr. Williston said, were: Church Sawmills Ltd., and Shuswap Timbers Ltd.

# No Teeth in Dental Technicians' Act

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The new Dental Technicians Act will not become law until the cabinet decides to proclaim it. Even then, all regulations made under the act are subject to cabinet approval.

This was explained by Health Minister Eric Martin when the bill got approval in the legislature Wednesday.

The act, if and when proclaimed, provides for cabinet appointment of a five-man board of examiners. This board will administer cabinet regulations concerning dental technicians.

Until the cabinet says so, dental technicians will have no right to deal directly with the public in sale of dentures or repairs of dentures.

An indication this will be some time in coming was given in the House by Premier Bennett during debate on the bill Wednesday.

He urged members to weigh carefully any pressures applied to them by persons anxious to have the bill approved.

# LAND EXPROPRIATED FOR LANGLEY PROJECT

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA—The provincial cabinet has ordered expropriation of land required to complete the restoration of Fort Langley.

Old Fort Langley is being restored as part of the centennial project.

Cost of restoration is being shared by the provincial and federal governments.

Proceedings were authorized after negotiations for purchase of the land broke down.

Property owned by John McGrath, 2896 Mavis Street, Langley, and by the estate of Henry Edmonds, is involved.



Thur., Mar. 20, 1958

## 15 Forest Licences Sought By Sommers Case Firm

VICTORIA—Fifteen forest management licence applications made between 1952 and 1957 were made through C. D. Schultz and Co., forestry consultants.

Lands and Forest Minister Ray Williston reported this to the Legislature Wednesday in reply to questions asked by George Gregory (Lib-Victoria).

The firm and its head, Charles D. Schultz, have been committed for trial on charges of conspiring to obtain licences by bribing former lands and forests ministers Sommers.

Of the 15 applications represented to the government by the company, only three were successful.

They were FML No. 17, granted Evans Products Limited; FML No. 19, granted the Tahsis Company Ltd., and FML No. 22, B.C. Forest Products Ltd.

B.C. Forest Products also is under bribe conspiracy charges and has been committed for trial.

Licence applications reserved by the department, Mr. Williston said, were: Church Sawmills Ltd., and Shuswap Timbers Ltd.

Licence applications handled by the Schultz organization that reached the advertising state were made by: Allison Logging Ltd., Empire Mills Ltd., Holding Lumber Co. Ltd., Nicola Valley Sawmills Ltd., Pacific Pine Co., P and M

Logging Ltd. and the Pas Lumber Co. Ltd.

Licence applications handled by Schultz that were rejected were made by: Brownsville Sawmills Ltd., Northern Spruce Co. Ltd. and Tidewater Forest Products Ltd.

### CAPITAL COLUMN

## Bennett Back in Fighting Form

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Premier Bennett, who often seemed jittery and worried during the session, snapped back into his fighting self the last few days, British Columbia's master strategist of politics.

It's true he had plenty to worry about most of the session.

There was first and foremost the incident of Mr. Mel Bryan, who quit the government side, crossed the floor and sat with the Opposition.

This was the most bitter pill the premier has ever had to swallow.

The premier had to sit this session and listen to some of his own supporters criticizing his cabinet ministers, which, in effect, was criticism of himself.

He was, naturally enough, pained to hear some of his supporters fighting among themselves, was infuriated when some of them said nasty, silly, politically naive things in the corridors about each other.

He had to sit and take it, and pretend not to care, when he saw three of his Socreds bolt out of the House, rather than stand up and be counted in support of the attorney-general.

He had to handle with the kid glove he hates a Government caucus that had suddenly become touchy, super-sensitive to any Government leadership.

Playing his game wisely, the premier sat down and listened, letting his boys talk until they decided they were making themselves slightly ridiculous.

Then they returned to the fold of Socred solidarity, and, as the session ends, all seems to be happy once more in the Socred family.

Mr. Bryan's action inflamed the premier, caused him to lose his temper, to smart under the whiplash of public humiliation for days.

But Mr. Bryan sat quietly throughout the session, saying hardly a word though voting with the Opposition against the Government.

A few nights ago the premier mentioned Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Bryan's crossing of the floor reminded the premier of his own crossing, back in 1951; the only difference being, said the premier, that he didn't sit quiet. He acted.

## Delinquency, Doctor Probes To Continue

VICTORIA—Two legislative inquiries are to be carried on, despite today's end of the 1958 session of the house.

The probes are investigations into juvenile delinquency and medical rates charged by doctors for welfare allowance recipients.

The juvenile delinquency inquiry, under the legislature's social welfare and education committee, spent all its time hearing representations and thus unable to come to any conclusions.

So Attorney-General Robert Bonner, at 1 a.m. today, presented to the house a bill authorizing continuation of the probe.

Travelling expenses will be paid members of a 16-man committee to be appointed by the cabinet.

It is expected most will be members of the legislature.

Nine members will be appointed to continue the inquiry into medical rates for welfare recipients, most of these will be MLAs. They will get travelling expenses.

He almost seemed to be daring Mr. Bryan to try to give the government another good swift kick.

\*\*\*

When the premier rose at 11:15 p.m. to fight a Strachan amendment, which if carried would have interfered with the Bennett budget and defeated the Government, the premier once more showed himself a canny political campaigner.

Once more he was the man with a shrewd and mysterious sense of political timing.

The public galleries were full.

Some Oppositionists, as the premier went on, waving his arms about, said the premier was doing nothing but talk to the galleries.

Why, of course, sure enough, said the premier.

He surely was talking to the galleries and through them to all the people of British Columbia, and he'd tell the world what wonderful things his government is doing for everybody.

The premier talked on and on; for half an hour he fascinated the galleries.

Then he started, deliberately, to repeat himself.

He purposely made himself tiresome.

Knowing the public, he knew they soon would get bored and go home.

The result was that when Mr. Strachan got up only a handful was left to hear him make his political speech in answer to the premier's political speech.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1958

## CAPITAL COLUMN

# Released MLAs Like Schoolboys

By JAMES K. NESBITT

VICTORIA—Mr. Uphill of Fernie had the last word of the 1958 session of the legislature.

When Lieut.-Governor Ross had left the chamber, Mr. Uphill alone of all the MLAs heaved his order papers and bills into the air, as was the fashion of all when Mr. Uphill first came into the house in 1920.

The grand old man said: "May we all be spared to meet here again next year."

These sincere words from this walking legislative history book, a kindly gentleman, came as a benediction upon the other 51 MLAs as they ended their sessional labors for this year, and started off to their home constituencies.

★ ★ ★

It's always like the last day of school, the last day of a session.

Nostalgia sweeps the house; the MLAs, for the moment, forget their differences of political opinion, their jockeying for political position, and wish each other well, and they mean it, too.

Not, of course, politically.

And the time-honored words of closing day come as a calming and healing breeze after the searing heat of a session.

Here are some of those words: Mr. Speaker Shantz: "We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the legislative assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in session assembled, approach your honor at the close of our labors with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty's person and government and humbly beg to present for your honor's acceptance, bill (No. 75) entitled 'an act for granting certain sums of money for the public service of the Province of British Columbia.'"

★ ★ ★

Clerk of the House Ned DeBeck, another grand old man of the legislature: "In Her Majesty's name, his honor the Lieut.-Governor doth thank Her Majesty's loyal subjects, accept their benevolence and assent to this bill."

Provincial secretary Wesley Black: "It is his honor the Lieut.-Governor's will and pleasure that the legislative assembly be prorogued until it shall please his honor to summon the same for dispatch of business, and this provincial legislative assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly."

★ ★ ★

Before the formality of prorogation, however, there were some hot words for the government from the opposition. The last blast for this session from Mr. Strachan's CCF'ers.

The government, you see, in time-honored fashion, voted down all the opposition's bills, as it should, the opposition not being the government.

But this age-old technique once more infuriated oppositionists, even though they knew what the government would do, — the same thing they would do if they were the government.

★ ★ ★

As the Opposition bills toppled, CCF Mr. Cox of Burnaby cried out, "the

steamer roller's really rolling this morning."

Mr. Cox, being a new MLA, probably thought the Opposition might get somewhere.

He'll learn.

There was some last-minute talk about shorter hours of work for labor, which caused Mr. Uphill to say MLAs break all the rules when it comes to hours of labor, and they should be prosecuted for working such long hours.

"We're a law unto ourselves," said public works minister Chant, which, of course, is true.

The MLAs are our highest law-makers, and when in session assembled they can do what they want and they can't be prosecuted.

★ ★ ★

Premier Bennett took right off for the hustings.

What a man.

One would think he'd head for a beach or the woods.

But a political campaign is to him meat and drink.

And so, every night next week, in a different B.C. centre, the premier will make a political speech.

It will be complete with Social Credit flourishes, as he plays his part in the federal election.

## 'Dying Hour' CCF Bills Rejected

### 'Old Steamroller' Cries Opposition As Labor Motions Voted Down

By Vancouver Sun Staff Reporter

VICTORIA — The Social Credit government rejected nine opposition bills in the dying minutes of the 1958 legislative session Thursday.

Cedric Cox (CCF Burnaby) accused the government of an anti-labor attitude as the 90-minute sitting wound up proceedings.

Most of the opposition bills called for new labor laws; one to cut the work week from 44 to 40 hours, another to relax strict enforcement of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Still another would give the government control over injunctions obtained by employers halting union picketing.

"It's the old steamroller," said Mr. Cox.

A government MLA said: "Toot, toot."

The fact the government was dealing with the labor bills in only the last 90 minutes of the session, said Mr. Cox, was evidence of the small signifi-

cance the government gives to labor.

Lieutenant-Governor Frank Ross prorogued the session at 12:09 p.m. Thursday.